

THE
BEAUTIES
OF
NATURE and ART
DISPLAYED,
IN A
TOUR through the WORLD;
CONTAINING

I. A General Account of all the Countries in the World, remarkable for either Natural or Artificial Curiosities; their Situation, Boundaries, Extent and Divisions; their Rivers, Air, Soils, Chief Cities, &c.

II. A particular Account of the most curious natural Productions of each Country, in the Animal, Vegetable, and Fossil Kingdoms; of remarkable Mountains, Caverns, and Volcano's; of Medicinal and other singular Springs; of Cataracts, Whirlpools, &c.

III. An Historical Account of the most remarkable Earthquakes, Inundations, Fires, Epidemic Diseases, and other public Calami-

ties, which have, at different times, visited the Inhabitants.

IV. Extraordinary Instances of Longevity, Fertility, &c. among the Inhabitants; together with an Account of their most celebrated Inventions, Discoveries, &c.

V. Particular Descriptions of the most remarkable Public Buildings, and other singular Productions of Art.

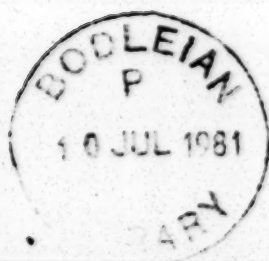
VI. Curious Remains of Antiquity; remarkable Laws, Customs, and Traditions of the Inhabitants; together with a Summary View of the most extraordinary Revolutions among them.

Illustrated and embellished with Copper Plates.

V O L. V.

L O N D O N :

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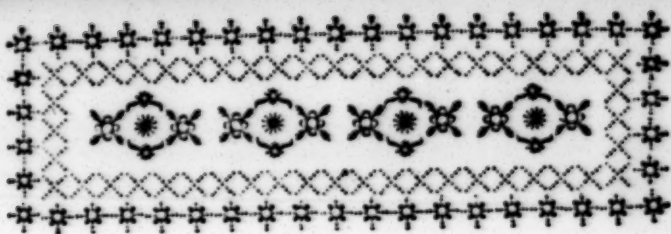
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CHURCHES *continued from* SECT. V.
of CHAP. II. PART I.

THE cathedral church of Strasburg in
T Alface is one of the finest structures
of the kind in Europe, with a steeple
570 feet high. In this church also
is a clock, which, when in its perfection, ap-
pears not only to have exceeded that at Lyons,
but probably surpassed all the machines of the
kind ever invented, for the variety of its
movements, many of which, however, are
now entirely stopt, or much out of order.

The basis of this curious machine is said to consist of three plates, a square plate on each side, and a round one in the middle. The round plate has three concentric circles, one within another, two of which are moveable, and the third fixed: the largest or outermost circle is ten feet diameter, turns round once in a year, and shews the months and days as they come round. The next circle, whose diameter is a foot less, was made to turn round in the same time, and to point out the vigils and festivals, which it performed for upwards of a century, but is now out of order. The innermost circle serves only for an ornament, containing a representation of Alsace, and the city of Strasburgh, and is therefore immoveable. The two square plates were made to show the eclipses of the sun and moon, which they now no longer perform. Below the basis or plates, is the figure of a pelican, bearing a globe on its wings, on which are represented the sun and moon turning round the zodiac in twenty-four hours. The second stage, or division of this machine, consists of a large plate, in the middle of which is an astrolabe, shewing the course of the heavens, with the four seasons painted round it. There is also a dial-plate, which shews the hours and minutes; and underneath it, the seven days of the week, represented by the seven planets, pass by in turns in a chariot; and on this plate is the face of the moon, shewing its age, and different phases or aspects.

On

On the third stage, or uppermost part of this celebrated clock, are four figures, representing the four ages of man's life, each of which steps out in his turn, every quarter of an hour, and strikes on a small bell: then enters death, driven away by a Christ risen from the dead, who, nevertheless, permits him to strike the hour, in order to put mankind in mind of mortality. On the right side of the clock there is an arch containing the weights that keep the machine in motion; and on the top of this arch stands the figure of a cock, which stretches out its neck, and crows before the hour strikes. In a frame, towards the bottom, is a picture of the celebrated astronomer Nicholas Copernicus, who, according to M. Thomas Corneille, was the inventor of this noble automaton: but this must certainly be a mistake, for Copernicus died in 1543, and the clock does not appear to have been finished before the year 1573.

St. Sulpicius's church at Paris, though no cathedral, deserves mention, as the finest piece of modern architecture in that metropolis. It was begun in 1646; but is yet unfinished. The outside is entirely of the Corinthian order, and vastly lofty. The inside is spacious and magnificent; and is ornamented with a superb altar and canopy; round the isles are several chapels, and it is said that to this church alone belong an hundred priests.

Here it may not be improper to entertain the reader with an account of the procession of

St. Sulpicius on Corpus Christi day, from which an idea may be formed of the several processions of the other churches on the same day, when the host is exposed all over the city, the several streets of which are lined with tapestry: the procession of St. Sulpicius marches in the following order.

1. An hundred citizens, each carrying a lighted wax taper, walk, two and two, before a silver cross, sixteen feet high.
2. Two hundred women, with burning tapers, walk, two and two, before a large silver verge, over which is a piece of embroidered sattin, with the word MARIA in gold letters.
3. Kettle-drums and trumpets.
4. Forty priests in white surplices.
5. Twenty nuns, in their habits walk, two and two, before a large silver cross.
6. One hundred citizens in black, walk, two and two, with lighted tapers.
7. Three embroidered velvet standards, with silver slaves, on each of which is the figure of a saint.
8. One hundred citizens in black, with lighted tapers, walk, two and two, before a cross, on which is embroidered the emblem of the Holy Ghost.
9. Fifty men in black, with lighted tapers, walk before a gilt silver cross, sixteen feet high.
10. Kettle drums, and the Swiss guards.
11. Sixty clergymen in white surplices.
12. Two hundred priests, most sumptuously habited in sattin, purple and gold.
13. Forty boys, in surplices and sattin girdles, with embroidered sashes, carrying small baskets of flowers, which they strew before the host.

host. 14. Forty boys carrying silver vases with burning incense. 15. Kettle-drums and other music, cloathed in blue and silver. 16. Two bishops in purple. 17. The host, under a most stately canopy of crimson velvet and gold lace. 18. Two hundred citizens in black, with lighted tapers. The procession is closed by the city guards; during the whole proceeding, the company chant a benediction, *Beati pauperes spiritu*, and whenever the host appears in sight, all the spectators fall upon their knees, and continue in that posture until it pass by.

The churches in Paris are so numerous, that a description of the various beauties which distinguish many of them, would swell this article much beyond the bounds that can be allotted to it; the principal curiosities of this kind are the painting of St. Paul's church; the monument of the Condé family in the Jesuits church, consisting of eleven figures as large as life, all in brass; the dome of the Assumption church; the tomb of Cardinal Richlieu, in the Sorbonne; that of Cardinal Mazarine, in Mazarine church; a painting of the life of St. Bruno in the Chartreux by Seuer; the paintings of Le Brun, in the Carmelites church; the outside and dome of Valde de Grace church; the tomb of St. Genevieve, in the church of that name, supported by four angels in brass, each standing on a marble pillar sixteen feet high. At this shrine, extraordinary devotion is performed on the anniversary

versary of the beatification of St. Genevieve, who is patroness of Paris. In this church are the tombs of King Clovis, and the philosopher Des Cartes; it is in many places adorned with fine paintings, and has a library, furnished with a curious collection of ancient coins, medals, and other curiosities belonging to the convent. And in the Saint chapel are shewn the following pretended holy relics.

1. The crown of thorns which was placed on our Saviour's head, with some drops of the sacred blood inclosed in a crystal vessel, enriched with diamonds.
2. A large piece of the real cross on which Christ was crucified.
3. The vest of our Saviour while an infant.
4. An image of our Saviour in wood, which, on being struck by an infidel, it is pretended, discharged a considerable quantity of blood.
5. A ring of the iron chain by which our Saviour was bound.
6. The linen with which he wiped the apostles feet.
7. A piece of the stone which was set over the holy sepulchre.
8. Some relics of the milk and hair of the holy virgin.
9. The iron head of the lance with which the Jews pierced our Lord's side.
10. The purple robe in which he was clothed by the Jews.
11. The reed which they put into his hand on the cross.
12. The sponge which they filled with gall and vinegar.
13. A piece of the linen in which he was wrapped for his interment.

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A View of the Palace



e Palace of Versailles.

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ROYAL PALACES.

THE royal palace of Versailles, which is not only the most magnificent in France, but perhaps in the whole world, is the ordinary residence of the royal family ; and stands upon a rising ground, about ten miles from Paris, in the middle of a valley, surrounded with hills. This palace was originally no more than a castle, built by Lewis XIII. for a hunting seat, to which Lewis XIV. taking a fancy, augmented and adorned it in the superb manner it appears at present. The avenues to the palace of Versailles are beautiful and spacious, particularly that on the side towards Paris, which consists of three walks, formed by rows of elms ; the middle walk being sixty feet wide, and each of the side ones thirty. This avenue terminates in a large square, in the middle of which is a noble fountain : from this court there is an ascent to the great court of the palace, which is 480 feet long, and has a stately pavilion at each of the four corners, which, together with the two wings, consist of offices for the palace, and apartments for some of the great officers of the crown. Out of this great court, which is fenced with fine iron palisadoes, there is an ascent of three marble steps, leading into a smaller court, adorned likewise with a magnificent fountain ; and from thence there is an ascent by five steps, into a third court, still less, which is
paved

paved with black and white marble, and is also ornamented with a marble fountain and a bason in the middle, decorated with statues of gilt copper. This court is terminated by one front of the palace, built in 1661, of brick and free-stone, and adorned with marble busts, and a stately portico supported by eight marble pillars of the Doric order. In this portico are three iron doors, richly gilt, and exquisitely wrought, through which there is an entrance into the hall and saloons, and from thence to the apartments on the right and left.

The principal stair-case, which consists of the finest marble, is thirty feet wide; and is adorned with admirable paintings and sculptures; throughout this palace there is a vast variety of most beautiful marble; and the rooms are almost all very lofty and richly furnished; the bedsteads and tables in many of them being of massy silver, or other very rich materials: but as it would require volumes to describe the numerous curiosities of the palace of Versailles, it may be observed in general, that almost every apartment has a particular name, derived from the principal subject painted on the cieling; as the Hall of Plenty, from the figures of Plenty and Liberty painted on the cieling; the Hall of Venus, from a painting of that goddess on the cieling; the Hall of War, and so of the rest.

The King's bedchamber is adorned with exquisite carvings, all gilt on a white ground; and

and the bed, which is of crimson velvet, embroidered with gold, is placed in a sort of alcove; where are two figures representing Fame in a sitting posture, and another representing France, in the like posture, appearing to watch the preservation of her monarch. On one side of the bed is David playing on his harp, and on the other, St. John in the island of Patmos. There are several other fine paintings in this chamber, particularly one of Hagar in the desert, with her son and the angel; and another of Jesus Christ's marriage with St. Catharine.

In one of the antichambers, is a piece of painting by Raphael Urbin, representing St. Michael and the dragon, supposed to be of inestimable value. In another apartment, is a clock of very curious mechanism; just before the hour strikes, the figures of a cock and an eagle present themselves, and expanding their wings, the cock crows in the most natural manner. After this, a door opens in the case, through which the figures of two centinels march out, and knocking at another door above them, the chimes begin to play, upon which a fine figure of Lewis XIV. moves forward, and a representation of victory descends, and places a crown of laurels upon his head; when the chimes have done playing, all the figures retire into the case, in the same order they came out.

The garden front of this palace is by far the most beautiful, perhaps because it is of a more modern date, not having been finished till 1678: it contains 131 large sash windows in a line, from one end to the other; and has a portico 300 feet long, paved with marble, supported by marble pillars, and adorned with fine sculptures, particularly the figures of the twelve months of the year: on this side is a noble gallery, upwards of 200 feet long, ornamented with large pannels of glass, fine paintings, busts and statues, and commanding a noble prospect over the gardens. On the cieling of this gallery, the battles and principal actions of Lewis XIV. with other memorable occurrences of his reign, are curiously painted. Here is a cabinet of curiosities, which is of an octagon figure, and in which is a fine collection of curious fossils, ancient medals, and other remains of antiquity, with several pieces of painting by the greatest masters. But all that has been said, can give the reader but a very inadequate idea of this sumptuous and majestic edifice. The chapel of the palace, which was built in 1699, is a most finished piece of architecture, adorned with exquisite sculpture and painting. The royal stables, which are built in separate places, before the avenues of the palace, each forming an half rotundo, bear an exact symmetry throughout; and for conveniency, beauty, and architecture, exceed any of the kind in Europe. In these stables is a large stud of horses, of all countries, but particularly of Eng-

England, there being at least 1000 of them English horses.

The gardens of Versailles are prodigiously extensive, and cover a large space of ground, which is divided into innumerable walks and alleys, crowded with a vast variety of statues and busts, exquisitely wrought. Close to the terrace, facing the palace, are two basons of water; in which are several artificial fountains, or *jets d'eau*; and in the middle of each bason is a collection of these fountains, which throw up water to the height of thirty feet, and form the figure of a wheat-sheaf: the borders of the basons are adorned with several groups of brazen figures, representing nymphs, cupids, and other heathen deities. In the angles of this parterre, are two other basons, in each of which is an artificial fountain, forming a fine sheet of water; and upon the borders are several excellent figures of animals in cast brass. Near these basons is another, in the middle of which is the figure of Latona, with her two children Apollo and Diana, supposed to have just made her complaints to Jupiter of the bad treatment she met with from the peasants of Lycia, who, for their punishment, are here represented as metamorphosed into frogs, which throw out upwards of seventy different fountains or *jets d'eau*: these figures are all of white marble, and the whole group is reckoned an excellent piece of sculpture.

In these gardens there are many other basins, fountains and cascades, the beauty of which can scarce be conceived by any description: but there is nothing perhaps in the gardens of Versailles more admirable than a canal, 4800 feet long, and 192 feet broad, called the Grand Canal, at each end of which is a large basin of an octagon figure; the grand canal is intersected in the middle by another canal, about 780 feet long; and upon these canals the court sometimes divert themselves in yachts and galleys.

Here also is a fine grove, called the Labyrinth, or Maze, from the great intricacy of the walks, which are amazingly interwoven one with another. At the entrance into this labyrinth are two statues, one of Æsop holding a clue in his hand, to intimate the necessity of such a guide to a stranger in the many intricate windings of this place, and the other of Cupid. The labyrinth is decorated with statues and fountains, and particularly with a basin of curious shell-work, in which one of Æsop's fables is represented in the most natural manner.

The Orangery, or Green house, is a most elegant piece of architecture, consisting of several galleries, the largest of which is above 400 feet long, and above 30 broad; they are each adorned with beautiful columns of the Tuscan order, groups of stone figures curiously carved, and statues and vases of white marble:

before

before the green-house is a fine parterre, with a fountain in the middle, which spouts up water to the height of 40 feet; and the whole parterre is decorated with rows of columns, groups of figures, statues, vases, and other ornaments.

It would swell this article greatly beyond the bounds assigned for it, were mention to be made of every thing that is curious and worthy of notice in these gardens, which are allowed to be the compleatest in Europe, and which are probably no where to be equalled; all the beautiful models that Italy and other parts of the world could afford, are here imitated, and brought to great perfection, in order that these gardens might surpass all the gardens of the earth.

At one end of the canal that intersects the grand one in the gardens of Versailles, and about a mile and a half from that palace, stands another royal palace, called Trianon, built in the taste of an Italian villa, by the particular desire of the celebrated Madam de Maintenon, the great favourite of Lewis XIV. The front of this palace is crusted over with variegated marble, which adds a most extraordinary lustre to the edifice; the inside of which is painted white, in imitation of china ware or porcelain, and decorated with pictures done by the most celebrated masters.

In a garden contiguous to those of Versailles is another royal seat, or castle, called the Palace of Marli, and consists of a great pavilion forming one side of a square, and twelve smaller ones forming the two other sides, six on each side, joined one to another by arches, in each of which is a small arbour formed of lath-work. The outside of this palace, which is built in the modern taste, is adorned with painting in fresco, and the inside is furnished with many exquisite pieces of painting and tapestry, representing the principal battles and sieges in the wars carried on by Lewis XIV.

The gardens of Marli, though much smaller than those of Versailles, are yet laid out with much greater method and regularity; and are, in like manner, profusely decorated with noble statues, fountains, and other water-works, which, in many respects, excel those of Versailles: from the side of a parterre, facing the great pavilion, and called the Great Parterre, is a most extensive fine prospect. Another parterre, called the Little Parterre, is adorned with marble statues, and has a fine bason in the center, where there are several water-spouts in the form of a wheat-sheaf. In one part of these gardens is a grand cascade, which represents a large river tumbling from a mountain; and in another part is another cascade, resembling sheets of silver; and, at the same time, roaring like distant thunder.

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But the greatest curiosity at Marli, and indeed one of the most ingenious and celebrated pieces of mechanism that human invention ever produced, is an engine for raising the water of the river Seine into reservoirs, which supply the water-works, not only of Marli, but of Versailles. This famous machine, which was invented by the Chevalier de Ville, is situated on a branch of the river Seine, and is composed of fourteen wheels, which, being ranged in proper order, and turned round by the stream of the river, set 225 pumps a going: these pumps raise the water into a tower situated on a hill, about 3660 feet distant from the river, and 372 feet higher than its level. From this tower the water is conducted through a magnificent stone aqueduct, of thirty-nine arches, and about 700 feet in length; and is thence conveyed through iron pipes of eighteen inches bore, and 700 feet in length, to reservoirs in the village of Marli, from whence it is carried to Versailles, about five miles distant from Marli.

When the river is high, it raises the water in the reservoirs of Marli only three inches in twenty-four hours. As the original construction of this famous machine was attended with an immense expence, so that of keeping it in repair is said to amount annually to no less a sum than 25000 l. sterling, from which circumstance it has been observed, that Lewis XIV. displayed his magnificence and grandeur, in making choice of a place which had no water
near

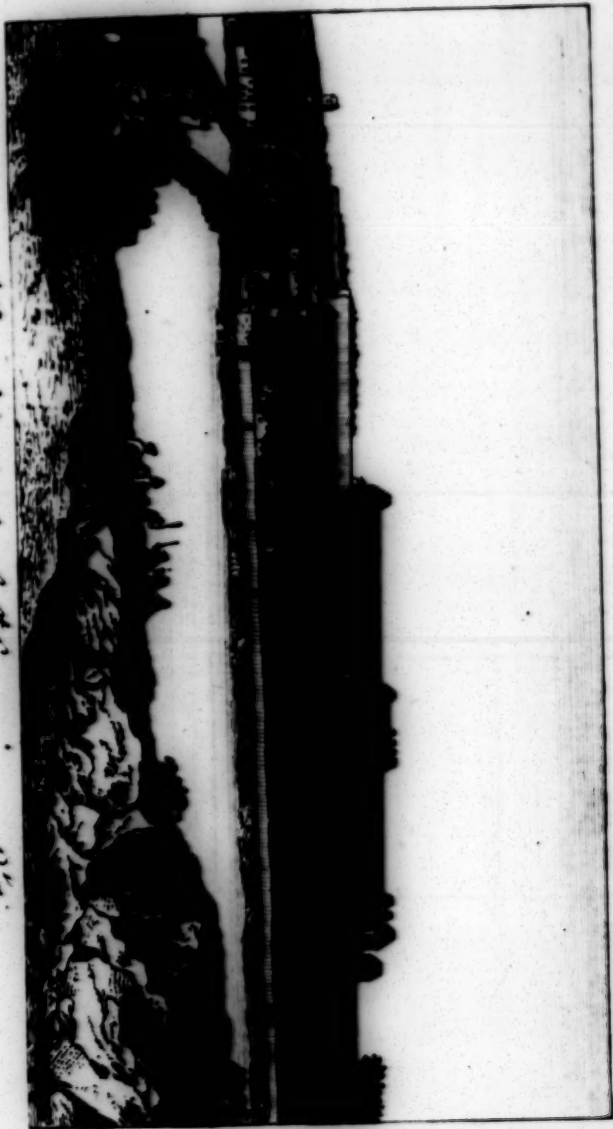
near it, to erect the finest water-works in the world, which nothing but a boundless treasure could have effected. This monarch had formed a project for conveying the water of the river Eure to Versailles, and accordingly began, in the year 1684, works of prodigious magnificence, which however were discontinued in 1688, on the breaking out of the war, and left unfinished. The magnificent aqueduct erected on this occasion, consisting of 242 arches, is yet standing, and is perhaps the noblest in the world.

At St. Germain en Laye, about four leagues west of Paris, is a fine castle or palace, belonging to the French King. It is pleasantly situated on the bank of the Seine, and was originally founded by King Charles V. in 1370: it was repaired and augmented by Francis I. as it was afterwards by Henry IV. who greatly extended the gardens belonging to it, and improved them with magnificent terraces, at a prodigious expence. Lewis XIII. made several additions to this palace; and Lewis XIV. who was born in it, augmented the old buildings with five large pavilions, and greatly improved the place. King James II. of Great Britain resided in this palace from the Revolution till his death in 1701.

About thirty-five miles south-east of Paris, is the royal palace of Fontainebleau, situated in the midst of a vast forest, great part of which is rocky and mountainous. The build-
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A View of the Castle of St. Germain en Laye.

View of the castle of St. Germain en Laye.





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ings, which were erected at different periods of time, are very irregular, but embellished with a great many fine statues in brass and marble; the apartments are magnificent, and the furniture rich. Here are several galleries finely painted. The gardens seem to be well laid out, and are adorned with a great number of statues and water-works: the orangery in particular, is very beautiful, and in the middle of it is a large basin with brass statues. In the pine garden, from which there is a most delightful prospect, is the representation of a liquid rock, out of which issues a prodigious quantity of water: the grottoes, parterres and cascades are vastly numerous.

In the middle of a pleasant forest, near Meudon, about two leagues from Paris, is a fine royal palace, originally built in the reign of King Henry II. of France, for the Cardinal of Lorraine: it was bought by Lewis XIV. who gave it to his son the Dauphin, grandfather to the present King: the Dauphin greatly augmented and adorned the buildings, which are richly furnished with sculptures and paintings. Here also are fine water-works, and a grotto paved with stained porphyry.

On the bank of the Seine, west of Paris, and close to a delightful wood, called the wood of Boulogne, is a royal palace built by Francis I. who gave it the name of Madrid, the reason of which name is differently related. The buildings consist of three stories, besides the ground

ground floor, and are surrounded with a gallery, which reaches to the top of the first floor, and is supported by coupled columns; the arches are incrustated with a sort of tile, which glistens much in the sun. The principal building is flanked on each side by two large pavilions, with smaller ones at the angles. In the middle of the front of each of the large pavilions, is a round tower, the top of which is in the form of a dome. The original plan of this palace, which is surrounded by a narrow ditch, was never perfectly finished.

About three miles east from Paris, is a royal palace, called Vincennes, situated in a fine park of the same name, which was inclosed in 1183, by Philip Augustus, who is supposed to have been the founder of the palace. The buildings, which were successively improved by Francis I. Henry II. Lewis XIII. and Lewis XIV. form a quadrangle, surrounded with dry ditches, which are lined and pretty deep. A part of this palace, called the castle, to which state prisoners are sometimes committed, consists of several square towers, the tallest of which is called *Le Donjon*, *The Turret*, and is surrounded by a particular ditch, over which there is a draw-bridge. The chapel, though built in the gothic taste, is a fine structure, adorned with several pyramids and other ornaments, among which are some paintings on the windows, greatly admired. The apartments of this palace are beautiful
and

A view of the Palace of Vincennes, & part of the Palace of Fontainebleau.

A View of the Flower Garden & part of the Palace of Fontainebleau.



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and stately, and the cieling is ornamented with paintings. The gate of the park, which fronts the castle, is a handsome piece of architecture, in the form of a triumphal arch, adorned with columns and statues; and on each side of it is a fine row of buildings, with an open gallery, supported by rustic arches.

In the middle of a park, upwards of twenty miles round, is the royal palace, or castle of Chambor, in Blaisois, about twelve miles from Blois. It was built by King Francis I. and, though still unfinished, is reckoned the finest piece of Gothic architecture in France. It consists of four large pavilions, in the middle of which is a stair-case of a very singular construction. It is built after the manner of a twisted shell, and has two sets of steps, so contrived, the one within the other, that persons, going up or down the one, cannot see those in the other: the number of steps is 274; and through the neve, or spindle, the bottom may be seen from the top: this castle is surrounded with a wall of free-stone, flanked with four round towers; and round the wall is a broad ditch. Adjoining to the palace is a fine garden, and leading to it is an avenue a mile and a half long, and six and thirty feet broad.

The chief ornament of Paris, is a royal palace called the Louvre, situated also on the bank of the river Seine; but never finished according to the original design. This stately palace, which is supposed to have been origi-

ginally begun by Charles IX. consists chiefly of two buildings, which form an interior angle, and the fronts of which are adorned with fine pieces of architecture: the whole is three stories high; the first of the Corinthian order, the second of the Composite, and the third of the Attic. In the front facing the river is a grand gallery, built by Henry IV. near a quarter of a mile long, with 124 windows in a direct line; and in this gallery are preserved models in clay, of almost all the fortified places in Europe, made by order of Lewis XIV. that he might be enabled to judge of their strength, in order to regulate his military operations accordingly. The west front was finished by Lewis XIII. who built a large pavilion, in form of a dome, over the gate, supported by two rows of pillars of the Ionic order. In the middle of the east front, which was built at a vast expence by Lewis XIV. and is 525 feet long, is the principal gate, with a portico, supported by forty Corinthian columns. Two thirds of this prodigious pile were never roofed; but such apartments as have been finished, are answerable to the external magnificence of the place.

Near the Louvre is another royal palace, called the Tuileries, built by Catharine de Medicis, in 1564, and much improved by Lewis XIV. The name *Tuileries* signifies *Brick Kilns*, and was applied to this palace, from some brick kilns which formerly occupied the place on which it stands. Between this beautiful

tiful palace and the Louvre there is a communication, by means of a gallery, which, fronting the river, was built by Henry IV. and is reckoned the finest in Europe; being 1350 feet long, thirty feet broad, and furnished with exquisite paintings and sculptures. Underneath this gallery is the royal Printing-House, and the apartments of the King's printers, engravers, carvers, and other ingenious artificers. The palace itself is one range of building, with a square pavilion at each end, and a dome in the middle; and the whole is adorned with columns, pilasters, and other ornaments. The grand front is towards the gardens, and is composed of five pavilions, in the Ionic, Corinthian, and Attic taste. This part of the building is very regular and beautiful, and is the only habitable part belonging to this large pile.

Behind the palace of the Tuilleries are the finest gardens about Paris, containing about thirty English statute acres, most beautifully laid out. On each side is a fine lofty terrace the whole length of the garden, the middle part of which is rather a thick wood, with narrow alleys: the parterre contains three pieces of water, which are ornamented with fine marble statues. The grand walk forms a most delightful vista, which terminates in a wood, called the Elysian Fields, and sometimes the Queen's Walk, from Queen Mary de Medicis, who planted it. These gardens are much frequented by the best company.

In

In that part of Paris called the University, is another royal palace, known by the name of the palace of Luxemburg. It is also called the palace of Orleans, from having been the property of Gaston, Duke of Orleans, brother to Lewis XIV. and was built by Queen Mary de Medicis, dowager of Henry IV. It is a beautiful and regular edifice, of the Tuscan and Doric orders, with a fine cupola in the front. At the entrance is a grand court, on each side of which is a long gallery, of exquisitely fine paintings, which are publicly shewn in the summer season. In these galleries are several curious marble tables, inlaid in the Mosaic taste, representing a prodigious variety of figures; and in one of them, called the Great Gallery, is an allegorical history of Mary de Medicis, painted by the celebrated Rubens, in twenty-four pictures, each of which is ten feet high, nine feet broad, and placed in the piers between the windows; the other apartments of this palace are richly furnished, and adorned with very valuable paintings. The gardens are elegantly laid out, ornamented with fountains, and much frequented by company, particularly in the morning.

PALACES *of* NOBILITY.

IN St. Honorius's street at Paris, is a palace belonging to the Duke of Orleans, the first prince of the blood, called the Royal Palace, from having been occupied by the court, during the regency of Queen Anne of Austria, mother of Lewis XIV. It was built in 1636, by Cardinal Richlieu, who made a gift of it to Lewis XIII. on condition that it should never be alienated : however, Lewis XV. gave the property of it to his brother, Philip, Duke of Orleans. It consists of several sets of buildings, in the Ionic and Corinthian stile, separated by large courts. Here is a long gallery which contains one of the most curious collections of paintings and medals in France. The gardens of this palace are pleasant and elegant ; they have several fine gravel walks, with a small fountain, and are, in the evenings, frequented by persons of the first distinction.

At St. Cloud, about six miles from Paris, is another superb palace, belonging to the Duke of Orleans. It stands on a hill, and is almost surrounded by the river Seine, over which it has a handsome stone bridge. It is adorned with exquisite fine paintings and sculptures ; the garden is extremely magnificent, being ornamented with a beautiful variety of water-works, as fountains and cascades ;

cares, and abounding in delightful walks and parterres.

At St. Maur des Fossés, about six miles from Paris, is a fine seat with beautiful gardens belonging to the Duke of Bourbon; and at Conflans, about the same distance from the metropolis, is the country seat of the archbishop of Paris. The apartments are extremely magnificent, and here is a gallery furnished with paintings, by the most eminent masters. The gardens are most beautifully laid out, and are adorned with statues, walks, water-works, groves, and all other proper embellishments.

At Seaux, about five miles from Paris, is a magnificent palace or castle, belonging to the Duke of Maine, the gardens of which are justly admired.

A View of the Palace of Venice.





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HOSPITALS.

ONE of the finest buildings in and about Paris, is the Royal Hospital of disabled soldiers, founded, in 1671, by Lewis XIV. It is a square stone building, which takes up above seventeen acres of ground, situated on the bank of the Seine, almost opposite to the Tuileries, and consists of four large courts, of the same form, surrounded with regular buildings, four stories high: these four courts surround a fifth, which alone is as large as all the four, and is surrounded with a double row of arches one above another, which form very narrow galleries, below which are eight large wards, ornamented with curious paintings: in this court is the infirmary, the inside of which is very neat, with a magnificent altar; on another side of this court is the chapel, which is crowned with a most beautiful dome; the pulpit, organ, and altar are richly gilt; the altar is covered with a magnificent gilt canopy, supported by four figures of angels, each standing on a serpentine pillar, forty feet high, all richly gilt: behind the grand altar are six other altars, ornamented with fine paintings, and statues of saints, as large as the life: the cupola is beautifully painted, and the floor curiously inlaid with marble of different colours. Besides these five principal courts, there are some others, in which are the several offices belonging to the

hospital, the great order and strict discipline of which are justly admired. It is under the direction of a governor, a lieutenant-general, and a major; and several thousand disabled soldiers are lodged and decently maintained in it, after the manner of the Chelsea pensioners in England.

Near the church of Notre Dame, is the *Hôtel Dieu*, or the *House of God*, which is the most ancient and largest hospital in Paris. It is supposed to have been originally founded by St. Landry, the twenty-ninth bishop of Paris, who lived in the reign of Clovis II. about the year 660, since which time the buildings and revenues have been considerably augmented; and at present, this hospital contains fifty wards, which are much crowded with beds. To the *Hôtel de Dieu* all patients are admitted, without regard to their country, religion, or disease; no security is required for their burial, in case of death; nor are those who labour under any incurable disease ever discharged, and suffered to perish in the streets: the number of patients in this hospital is from three to seven thousand, who are carefully attended by Nuns, of the order of St. Augustine, who discharge the office of nurses. The buildings are very plain, but the order and œconomy of the house are commended and admired, and a frugal plenty of all necessaries prevails in every part of it. It is governed by twelve citizens and seven honorary administrators.

The

The next great charitable foundation in Paris, is the Charity Hospital, situated in *Rue St. Pere*, and founded by the King, in 1602. In the building there is nothing remarkable, but the inside is neat and elegant, and divided into five large wards, in which are about 200 beds: the long ward is ornamented with fine paintings; and at the extremity of each ward is a chapel with excellent portraits of several Kings and Cardinals, as well as eminent surgeons of France. This hospital is attended by the Friars of *St. Jean de Dieu*, who officiate here, from the highest to the lowest, in the manner that the Augustine Nuns do in the *Hôtel de Dieu*.

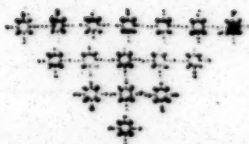
A small distance from the city of Paris, stands the General Hospital, which was founded in 1656, and is an elegant structure, surrounded with a deep fosse, and ornamented with a dome at top: upon proper application, all patients are admitted into this hospital, such as women with child, foundlings, orphans, and lunatics. The wards are numerous and extensive, and there are generally seven thousand persons within the walls.

Close to the *Hôtel de Dieu* stands the Foundling Hospital, which is a plain neat structure, of white stone. Into this hospital all the children presented are received, without question, except in regard to baptism: it generally maintains about a thousand foundlings in the house, and about four thousand at nurse. The

inside of the hospital is exceeding neat and clean; the lay-sisters who attend the foundlings, are mostly attired in black gowns and white veils; and the female foundlings are cloathed in black, white aprons and bibs, and neat fly caps.

About three miles from Paris is an hospital, called the Bicetre, which is a large plain building, and serves in the double capacity of an hospital and state prison. Such, whose misfortune it is to be condemned to perpetual imprisonment, are those generally committed to this place.

These are the principal hospitals in and about Paris.

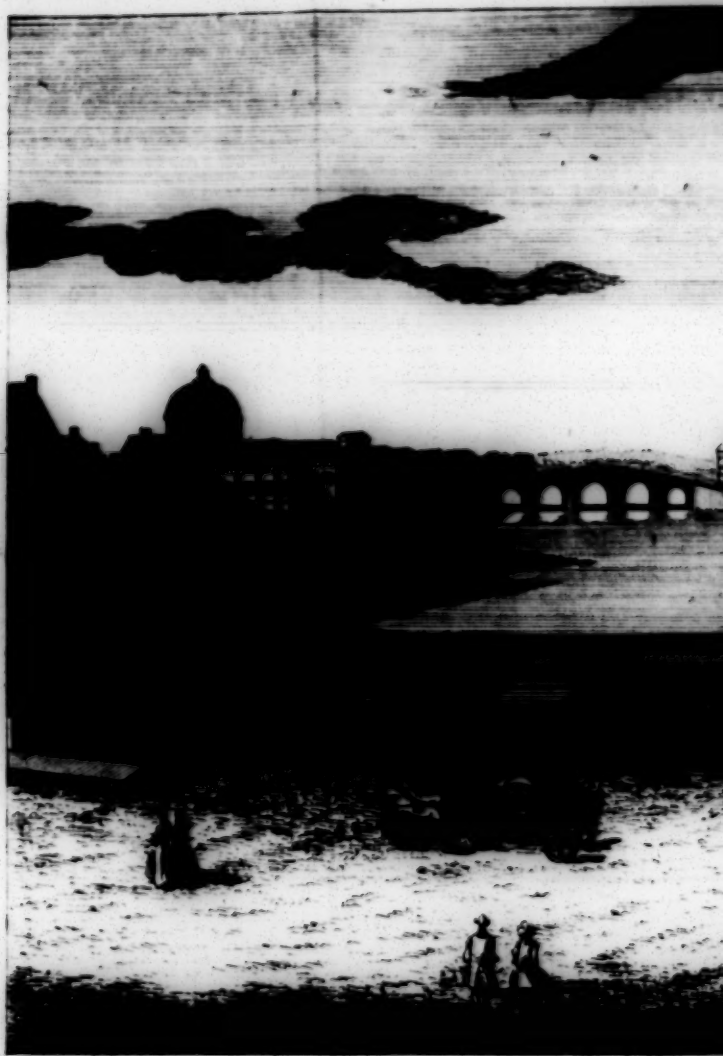


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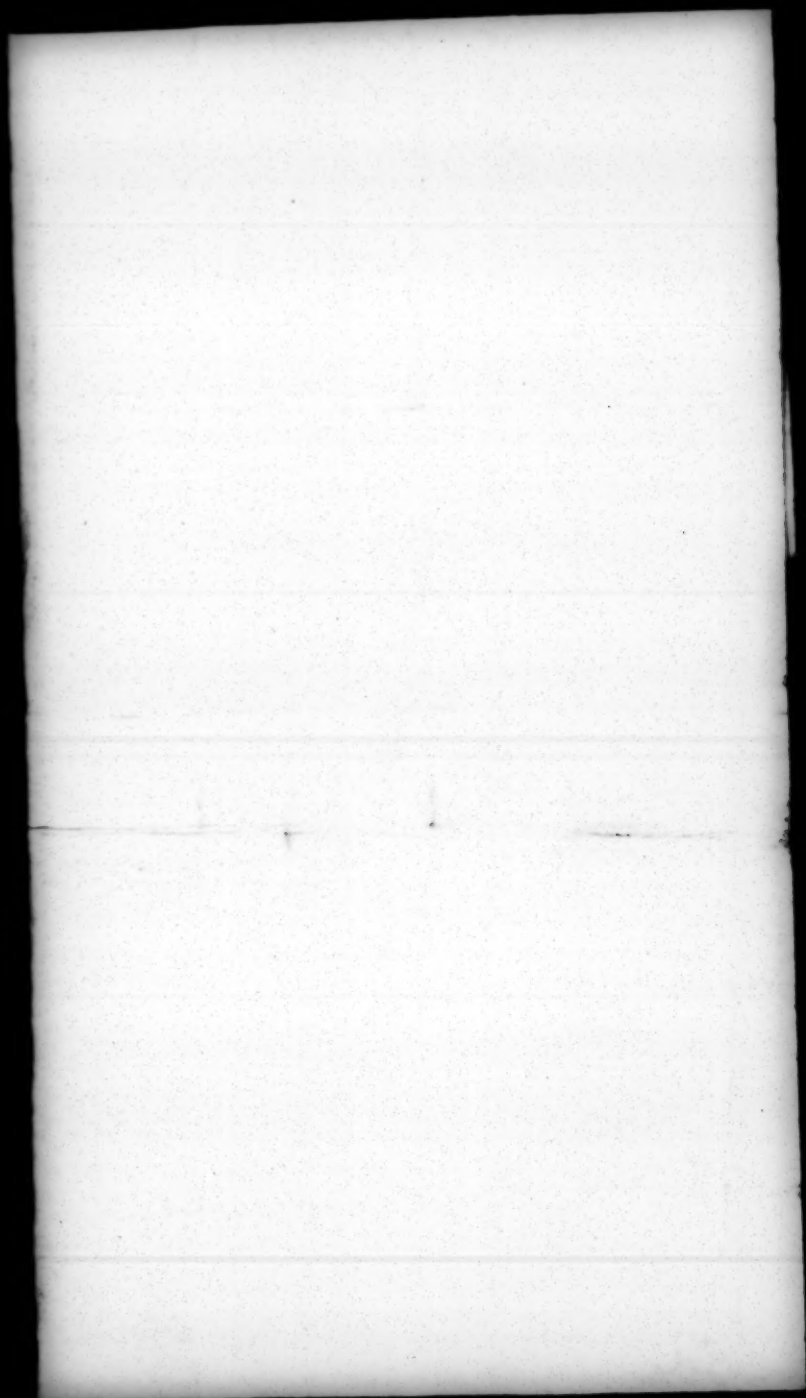
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A View of Paris from the



from the middle of Pont Neuf to Pont Royal .



B R I D G E S.

AT Paris there are no less than ten bridges over the river Seine, the most considerable of which are the three following :

Pont Neuf, or the *New Bridge*, was begun in the reign of Henry the Third, that Monarch having laid the first stone of it upon the 31st of May 1578, but not finished till the year 1604. It consists of twelve arches, is 1020 feet long, and seventy-two feet broad, of which the carriage way is thirty feet, and the rest is taken up by a foot way on each side, raised above the road allowed for carriages. Over each pier there is a semicircular parapet, round which, from one extremity of the bridge to the other, there is a cornish resting on very large consoles, supported by very fine busts. Between the fifth and sixth arches stands a brass statue of King Henry the Fourth on horse-back, supported by a marble pedestal, on the sides of which are represented, in bas relief, the principal actions of that Monarch ; at each of the four corners is the brass figure of a slave in chains, trampling upon antique arms. This stately monument is enclosed by beautiful iron palisadoes. Another ornament of this bridge is a curious fountain, called the Samaritan, from the statues of our Saviour and the Samaritan woman upon it. This fountain is a neat small structure, with a chime of bells, and some water-works, by which

which the Louvre and several other parts of the city is supplied with the water of the river.

The Pont Royal is a stone building of eleven arches, which faces the Louvre, and was built by order of Lewis the Fourteenth, about the year 1685. It has no ornaments, but is reckoned one of the strongest bridges in the kingdom. *Pont au Change* was thus called from a wooden bridge at this place, which belonged to the money changers, and which being frequently damaged, and, in 1621, entirely burnt down, a stone bridge was begun in the same place in the year 1639, and finished in 1647. It is built on both sides with houses, consisting of stone and brick, four stories high. Facing this bridge is an arch, thirty feet in height, adorned with two pilasters and a pediment, under which are three brass statues; that in the middle stands on a pedestal, and represents Lewis the Fourteenth, in the tenth year of his age, crowned with laurels by the hands of Victory; the other two statues are those of Lewis the Thirteenth, and his Queen Anne of Austria, who was regent of the kingdom when the bridge was finished.

In the city of Strasburgh is a wooden bridge over the Rhine, which is a full English mile in length, and is thought to be the finest in Europe.

About twelve miles from Nîmes, and five miles from Uzes, in Lower Languedoc, is a bridge built of free-stone, over the river Gardon,

don, between two mountains. It is of a surprising magnitude, is an admirable structure, and consists of three rows of arches, one above the other : the lower row has thirty-five arches, and is 300 paces in length. It is said to have been built by the antient Romans.

At Old Brioude, in Lower Auvergne, is a stone bridge over the river Allier, which is an admirable structure, and is also a work of the Romans. It consists of a single arch, resting upon two mountains of a prodigious height.

At Blois, in Blaisois, is a fine stone bridge over the river Loire, on which is a pyramid with an inscription, intimating that it was rebuilt by Henry the Fourth, in 1598.



MISCELLANEOUS BUILDINGS.

ONE of the most remarkable structures in Paris, of which mention has not been already made, is a kind of fortress, consisting of eight large round towers, joined together by other strong buildings, called the Bastille. It was built in 1370, and, in 1634, was surrounded with ditches and bastions. It is a prison for state criminals, and such as are taken up by letters de cachet, or warrants signed by the King, and sealed. Here are a Governor, a Lieutenant, and an independent company of soldiers.

The Arsenal, where all the artillery for the defence of the kingdom was formerly cast, and where great part of it is still laid up, was built about the same time with the Bastille, and is a pretty large building in manner of a castle. In the middle was a tower, called the Tower of Billi, which, in 1538, was blown up from the very foundations, by 200 barrels of gunpowder, fired by lightning; the great gate, which was built by Henry the Fourth, is adorned with four large guns, cast into the form of columns; the great hall is beautifully painted by the celebrated Mignard; and behind the building is a fine garden.

A large building situated near the Pont Neuf, and called the Palace, from its having been originally

A View of the Bastille at Paris.

A View of the Bastille at Paris.





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originally a place where the Kings of France commonly resided, was founded in the reign of Pepin, the father of Charlemagne, and finished in 1313, under Philip the Fair, who allotted it for the ordinary meeting place of the Parliament of Paris. It is divided into several halls, in which the several courts of the Parliament meet, together with the Court of Aids, Chamber of Requests, Chamber of Accounts and Chancery. The roof of the great hall is built of free-stone; and in the middle of it is a row of arches, supported by large pillars, round which are several shops, whence probably this place derives the name of the Merchants Palace, by which it is commonly called. Contiguous to the great hall is the grand chamber, which was built in the reign of St. Lewis, and repaired by Lewis the Twelfth: the cielings of the chambers where the several courts of the Parliament meet are gilt, and beautifully painted; as are also the ceilings of the three chambers of the Court of Aids. The Court of Chancery is held in a part of the palace, called the Gallery of the Prisoners, from a prison contiguous to it, belonging to the Parliament, and called by the French *La Conciergerie*.

The Town-house, or Guildhall of Paris, is situated upon one side of a large square, called *La Greve*, in which most of the criminals are executed, and where public shews are exhibited on days of festivity. This is a large Gothic building, adorned however with columns of the Corinthian order. Over the gate is an equestrian

equestrian statue of King Henry the Fourth. The court is surrounded with buildings, supported by arches very ill turned. Under one of the arches is a statue of Lewis the Fourteenth, in an antique dress, raised on a marble pedestal; and on the marble frieze round the arches are inscriptions in gold letters, expressing the principal events of that King's reign. The rooms up stairs are adorned with paintings of several of the magistrates of the city. In the great hall there are also several paintings, the most remarkable of which is a piece representing a magnificent entertainment, which the town council gave to Lewis the Fourteenth, and his whole court, upon the 30th of January 1687.

The University of Paris is said to have been founded by Charles the Great, in 791; but it does not appear that the schools of this university acquired any great reputation before the end of the eleventh century, about which time there were several learned professors of philosophy and divinity at Paris. In process of time there were some colleges founded, where philosophy, physic, law and divinity were taught; and now there are in this university about thirty colleges, the most considerable of which are the following:

The college of Sorbonne, founded in the year 1250, by Robert, a native of Sorbonne, a small village near Rethel in Champagne. This college, having been much decayed, was
magni-

magnificently rebuilt by Cardinal Richelieu, in 1629, and contains apartments for thirty-six doctors, besides a library and halls. The church is a fine edifice, adorned with pilasters of the Corinthian order, and several statues of saints and angels; the inside of the dome is elegantly painted; and in the middle of the choir is the tomb of Cardinal Richelieu, with a fine figure of the Cardinal, in a reclining posture, supported by Religion, with several other emblematical figures. This is reckoned the strictest college in Europe; the degree of doctor in it being given to those only who hold the Sorbonnic act, or maintain a public disputation from sun rise to sun set, whence the title of doctor of the Sorbonne is of the highest reputation.

The college of Navarre, thus called from its foundress, Jane, consort of Philip the Fair, Queen of Navarre, and Countess of Champagne. The masters and scholars were admitted in the year 1315: this foundation was greatly augmented by Cardinal Richelieu, Lewis the Thirteenth, and Lewis the Fourteenth; here is a society of doctors of divinity, like that of the Sorbonne, established by Lewis the Thirteenth; and this college is the depository of the records of the university.

The college of the Four Nations, thus called because it was designed for the education of the children of gentlemen or eminent citizens of four different districts of France. It is also

called the College of Mazarine, from its founder the Cardinal of that name : the buildings were finished in 1674, and are esteemed the finest in the whole university.

The College of Physic, thus called from its being the college of the faculty of physic at Paris : this college was built in 1477, and has an amphitheatre, where the students attend annual courses of anatomy, surgery, pharmacy, and chemistry. There are five professors in this college, chosen every year, who read lectures of physiology, botany, pharmacy, pathology, and surgery. The faculty is composed of doctors and licentiates, who have taken their degree in the university of Paris ; and these have the sole and exclusive right to practise physic in that metropolis, no physician of any other university being suffered to practise at Paris, except a physician to the King or royal family.

So much for the colleges of the university of Paris.

The King's Library at Paris is a most stately and magnificent building, which was originally a palace, erected by Cardinal Mazarine, and converted into a library in 1722 : the apartments are large and lofty, and the books, of which there is a prodigious number, placed in good order.

On

On the highest ground in the city of Paris stands the Royal Observatory, which is a stately and beautiful edifice, erected in 1667. Several astronomers, with good appointments, have apartments in the house; and through this observatory the French reckon their first meridian, which is 2 deg. and 35 min. east of London.

The most spacious and most magnificent square in Paris, is the Square of Vendome, thus called from Cæsar, Duke of Vendome, natural son of Henry the Fourth, who was the first founder of these superb buildings. It is also called the Square of Lewis the Great, from an equestrian statue of Lewis the Fourteenth. The square is of an octagonal form; the houses are all of the Corinthian order, and have the most perfect symmetry. The King's statue, which stands on a marble pedestal, in the center of the square, is of massy brass, much larger than life, and habited like a Roman Cæsar; there is a variety of inscriptions on the pedestal, forming an eulogium on the virtues and exploits of that great Monarch.

Here is another square of buildings in the Ionic stile, but neither elegant nor regular, called the Square of Victories, from a noble group of figures in the middle of it, erected by the Duke de la Feuillade, a peer of France, representing Lewis the Fourteenth, in his royal robes, with a three headed Cerberus lying dead at his feet, alluding to the triple alliance, over which he is supposed to triumph. A figure of Victory

stands behind the King, poised with one foot on a globe, setting a crown on his head. This group, which is universally allowed to be the best piece of statuary in Europe, if not the finest ever executed in any age or country, is of gilt brass, and stands upon a marble pedestal, 22 feet high, on which are several fine bas reliefs. At the bottom of the pedestal, are the figures of four chained slaves in brass, larger than life, with their military trophies placed under the King's feet. The whole group is said to weigh 30,000 pounds, and to have been cast at one running. Upon the pedestal are several vain and insolent inscriptions, one of which is addressed or dedicated thus, *Immortali Viro. i. e. To the Immortal Man.*



C A N A L S.

THERE are in France several navigable canals, or artificial rivers, furnished with locks and sluices, and sustained by banks and mounds, in order to form a communication between one place and another, the principal of which are those following :

The Canal of Languedoc, thus called from its running through the province of that name, is also called the Canal of the two Seas, from its having been intended as a communication between the Mediterranean and Cantabrian seas, to carry the French fleets from the Mediterranean sea to the ocean, without passing through the Streights of Gibraltar. According to some historians, such a communication was projected by the Romans ; but it was frequently thought of under the reigns of Charles the Great, Francis the First, and Henry the Fourth. At last, in 1664, Lewis the Fourteenth, having appointed commissaries to examine into the practicability of such an undertaking, upon their report, this great work was begun in 1666, and compleated in 1680. On surveying the ground, it was found that Narouse, near Castelnandary, is the highest place between the two seas ; on which account it was fixed upon for a bason 1200 feet long, 900 feet broad, and one of the finest in the world ; having always seven feet water, which is conveyed by means of one sluice towards

wards the ocean, and by means of another sluice towards the Mediterranean sea. In order to furnish this bason with a constant supply of water, there is another bason at Ferreal, about a mile from Revel, which is 7200 feet long, 3000 feet broad, and 60 feet deep, and from which there is an aqueduct to carry its water to the bason at Narouse. Great difficulties were encountered in the execution of this grand undertaking; the unevenness of the ground, the mountains, rivers, and brooks, that obstructed the work, appear as unsurmountable difficulties; however the unevenness of the ground was remedied by means of sluices, which raise and support the water, and of which there are fifteen towards the ocean, and forty five towards the Mediterranean. The mountains which stood in the way of this work, were dug through; and through mount Malpas, in particular, a passage was dug, the length of 720 feet, to make room for the canal: the difficulty arising from the intervention of rivers and brooks, was surmounted by bridges and aqueducts, of incredible height in some places, built for conveying the canal over the rivers and brooks running underneath. On each side of this canal, there is a little bank, four feet broad, for drawing the vessels: the expence incurred in the execution of this canal, which is 200 miles long, reaching from the port of Certe, on the Mediterranean sea, to the city of Tolouse, where it joins the river Garonne which falls into the ocean, in the Bay of Biscay, was thirteen millions of livres, and the annual

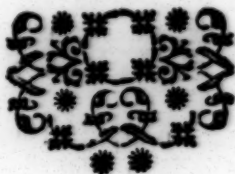
annual expence for keeping it in repair is prodigious; and yet so far from answering the original design for which it was intended, it appears to be of no great service for the inland trade of the country; the vast number of sluices by which it is incumbered, necessarily impeding the navigation of it.

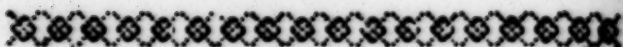
The next famous canal in France, is the Canal of Mardyck, a village between Gravelines and Dunkirk, in French Flanders, begun in the latter part of the reign of Lewis the Fourteenth, upon the following occasion. As soon as the French began to execute the articles of the treaty of peace, concluded at Utrecht in 1713, one of which required the harbour of Dunkirk to be filled up, it was perceived, that upon executing this article of the treaty, the country, for ten leagues round, was in danger of being overflowed: upon which a scheme being proposed to the French court, for making a canal at Mardyck, in order to carry off the water, it was immediately set about. It begins at Bergen, and, from that place to an angle which it forms, is about eleven hundred perches long, and ten or eleven broad: from the angle to a large and noble sluice it runs about an hundred and ten perches in length; from the sluice to the place where the sea comes in at high tide, it is much the same length; and from thence to the place where the sea retires at low water, it is about three hundred and fifty-six perches long, and between sixteen and eighteen broad. The sluice is one of the noblest works of the kind in
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the world, being about sixteen perches in length, and eight perches in breadth, without taking the buttresses into the account: the two sides of the sluice are each twenty-four feet thick; and the middle pier thirty: there are in this sluice two passages, the one forty-four feet broad, for large ships; and the other, for smaller vessels, twenty feet: the smaller passage was made, lest the prodigious weight of the gates of the larger passage, which, if there had been no other, must have been opened for every little vessel, should have soon worn them out. At common high tides, there are always here upwards of twenty feet of water, and twenty-four feet at spring tides. The men of war could have come up and down this canal, and have entered another canal at Bergen, by means of another sluice that was designed: but the advantages that would accrue to the French nation from the navigation of this canal, so roused the jealousy of the maritime powers, that France was obliged to make a sacrifice of it, at the treaty concluded at the Hague, between Great Britain, Holland, and France, in January 1717, when it was agreed, that the large passage of the sluice should be intirely ruined, which was done accordingly.

In 1682, a canal was begun at a place called Portmorant, about six miles from the city of Orleans, for establishing a communication between the rivers Seine and Loire, and finished in 1692, by Philip, Duke of Orleans. From Portmorant, this canal, after running a course
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of fifty-two miles, and the water being supported by several dams, or sluices, falls into the river Loing, at Cepoi, a village three miles distant from Montargis; and that river discharges itself into the Seine. The duties paid by the vessels, going up and down this canal, have sometimes amounted to an hundred and fifty thousand livres annually.





S E C T. VI.

Curious Remains of Antiquity in France. Remarkable Laws, Customs, and Traditions of the Inhabitants; with a summary View of the most extraordinary Revolutions among them.

REMAINS of ANTIQUITY.

IN many parts of France are still to be seen curious remains of Roman antiquity, the most remarkable of which are those following:

In the city of Nîmes, in Languedoc, there are noble ruins of a large Roman amphitheatre, built of free-stone: the outside is adorned with columns and curious carvings, among which are several figures of an eagle, the Roman ensign, and the history of Romulus and Remus sucking a wolf, still visible. Other ruins of Roman amphitheatres in this kingdom are at Toulouse in Languedoc, at Périgueux in Guienne, at Chalons in Burgundy, at Arles in Provence, and at Vienne in Dauphiné.

In many parts of this kingdom there are stately remains of Roman triumphal arches. At Rheims in Champagne there are three stone arches contiguous one to another, and adorned with chamfered columns, and figures in bas relief.

lief. The middle arch, which is the largest, is thirty-five feet high, and fifteen feet wide, and has the figure of a woman with two cornucopia's in her arms, which, it is supposed, were intended to denote the fertility of the country; the figures of four children round her, are expressive of the four seasons of the year; and the twelve months are represented by so many proper figures: on one of the side arches, is cut the story of Romulus and Remus sucking the wolf, attended by the shepherd Faustulus, and his wife Acca Laurentia; and on the other side arch, is a representation of Leda embracing Jupiter, transformed into a swan, and a Cupid lighting them with a flambeau.

One of the present gates of the city of Orange, was a triumphal arch, erected by C. Marius, in memory of a victory obtained over the Cimbri and Teutones, who made an inroad into Italy. In this city are the ruins of a circus*, and several other remains of Roman antiquity.

Near Autun in Burgundy, are several antient columns and pyramids; and at Arles in Pro-

* A circus was a large building of a round or oval figure, erected for the celebration of several sorts of games, or exercises, as wrestling, boxing, fighting with swords, staves or pikes, throwing the discus or quoit, racing on foot or on horseback, or in chariots. It differed from an amphitheatre in being larger. Both had a number of seats rising one above another for the people to sit on, and behold the shews.

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vence, is a fine obelisk of oriental granite, which consists of one entire stone, and yet is fifty-two feet high, and seven feet in diameter at the base. It was dug up in a garden near the river Rhone, in the year 1675, and erected in the city of Arles, of which it is one of the noblest ornaments.

At Autun are the remains of a temple dedicated to Janus, and still called Janitoye; and the ruins of several other pagan temples are still visible in many parts of this kingdom; together with many remains of Roman aqueducts, baths, and military ways.

In the year 1665, a large round buckler of massy silver, twenty-one inches in diameter, and weighing twenty-one pounds, was found in the river Rhone, near Avignon. It is near 2000 years old, is charged with a figure of Scipio Africanus, half mantled, attended by Roman officers, and some noble Spaniards, supplicating for a beautiful virgin; and was consecrated to Scipio, upon his restoring a fair captive to Allucius, Prince of Celtiberia, to whom she was espoused.

REMARKABLE CUSTOMS, LAWS, and TRADITIONS.

THE barbarous custom of executing malefactors, first by breaking their bones on a scaffold, and then exposing them on the circumference of a wheel, in which condition they are left to expire, is practised particularly in France.

A person, who was lately present at one of these executions, relates the manner of it as follows. The malefactor, who was a murderer, about half an hour after four o'clock in the afternoon, was brought in a cart, attended by the city guards, and assisted by a priest of the Sorbonne, to the Greve, in the middle of which square was a scaffold, about nine feet high. On the scaffold was erected a large cross, in the form of a St. Andrew's cross, on which the executioner and his assistants placed the criminal, in such a manner, that his arms and legs were extended according to the form of the cross, and strongly tied down. Under each arm and leg was cut a notch or hollow in the wood, as a mark where the executioner might, with the greater ease, break the bone, which was done by striking it with a large iron bar, not unlike a crow. The bones of the arms were first broke, and then instantly those of the thighs: on one corner of the scaffold was fixed to a pole a wheel about three quarters

of a yard in diameter, on which the criminal, trussed up like a fowl, after his bones had been broken on the cross, was placed, and tied with cords; and on which he continued till he expired. This part of the execution has given occasion to term this punishment breaking on the wheel; and though the bones of the criminal is broken on a cross in France, they are broken on the wheel itself in Germany. It should also be observed, that in France the criminal is sometimes suffered to expire on the cross, to accelerate which, the executioner is directed to give him a stroke, called the *Coup de Grace*, or *Merciful Stroke*, on his stomach, which instantly puts an end to his misery. Afterwards the dead body is taken down from the cross, and put upon the wheel, where it is exposed for some time.

The inhabitants of Chaumont in Champagne, had a custom of celebrating, every seventh year, a feast in honour of St. John the Baptist, called *la Diablerie de Chaumont*, or *the Devilish Tricks of Chaumont*, the reason of which appellation was, that several of the inhabitants, dressed after the manner in which the devils are commonly painted, used to run about the country, for three or four leagues round, a few days before the feast, to beg money of every person they met, under pretence of defraying the expences of the celebration of it, which was done, by representing the several actions of that Saint's life, on different theatres finely decorated. During the time of the representation,

tion, the whole clergy of the place walked in procession before all those theatres, and then proceeded to a church in the town dedicated to St. John, where plenary indulgences were granted on that day. The alms collected for the support of this feast were originally voluntary, yet it became customary to oblige every person to contribute some little money towards it, which produced many disputes and disorders, and as more commonly ensued in consequence of the vast concourse of people to Chaumont, from all the neighbouring places, the magistrates of that town suppressed the old manner of celebrating the feast of St. John some years ago.

There is an antient and fundamental law of the kingdom of France, called the Salic, or Salique Law, usually supposed to have been made by Pharamond, or at least by Clovis, in virtue whereof males are only to inherit. Du Haillan, after a critical examination, declares it to have been an expedient of Philip the Long, in 1316, for the exclusion of the daughter of Lewis Hutin, from inheriting the crown. Father Daniel, on the other hand, maintains that it is quoted by authors more antient than Philip the Long, and that Clovis is the real author of it. This law has not any particular regard to the crown of France; it only imports, in general, that in Salic land no part of the inheritance shall fall to any female, but the whole to the male sex. By Salic lands, or inheritances,

tances, were antiently denoted, among us, all lands, by whatever tenure held, whether noble or base, from the succession whereto women were excluded by the Salic law ; for they were by it admitted to inherit nothing but moveables and purchases wherever there were any males.

Humbert the Fourth, Lord of Beaujeu, a city of Lyonnois, having founded the city of Ville Franche, in the same Province, about the beginning of the twelfth century, in order to encourage persons to settle in it, granted several privileges to the inhabitants, one of which was, that the husbands should be at liberty to beat their wives till the blood run, providing they did not kill them.

There is a tradition in France, that, at the very instant Henry the Third, the last of the house of Valois, was killed, a thunderbolt broke out of a coat of arms of the family of Bourbon, which was in the window of a chapel at Bourbon l'Archambaud, the red baton which distinguished the arms of that house from those of the royal family, without any damage to the rest of the coat, which accident was considered as a presage of the future grandeur of the family of Bourbon.

REVOLUTIONS, and other MEMORABLE EVENTS.

THE name *France*, which signifies *free*, or *wild*, was immediately derived from the *Franks*, a people who are supposed to have come from Germany, about the beginning of the fifth century; and who, having conquered the inhabitants, fixed themselves in that part of Transalpine Gaul which lies north of the river Loire, and which was first called France. Whence the more ancient name *Gaul* was derived, is not known.

Gaul is supposed to have been originally peopled from Italy, and the first revolution recorded in history among the inhabitants, is the conquest of their country by the Romans, under the conduct of Julius Cæsar, about 48 years before the christian æra. Cæsar found it divided into several petty kingdoms and states, which he attacked separately, and by that means made an easier conquest of the whole country: but had the Gauls been united, the Romans were so much superior to them in military discipline, that in the end they must have subdued them.

Augustus Cæsar divided Gaul into four provinces*; and the Romans continued in possession of this country, till about the year

* See Vol. IV. p. 157.

400, when the northern nations broke in upon the empire, and the people distinguished by the name of Franks, and supposed to have come from that part of Germany called Franconia, made a settlement in Gaul. The Burgundians, another nation of Germany, passed the Rhine about the same time, and having possessed themselves of the south-east parts of Gaul, gave the name of Burgundy to their conquests ; and the Goths conquered the south-west provinces.

Pharamond is said to have been the first King of the Franks in Gaul, and to have begun his reign about the year 420 ; and Merovee is reckoned their third King, from whence the first race of their Kings are denominated the Merovingian line : but Father Daniel, one of the best French historians, is of opinion, that Clovis was their first King, who began his reign in 486.

In 493, Clovis married Clotilda, the daughter of Chilperic King of the Burgundians, and conquered the provinces situated between the Somme, the Seine, and the Aisne, together with the city of Rheims, where he was crowned. In 496, he was converted to Christianity, and baptized, in consequence of a vow he had made; and having extended his conquests beyond the Waal and the Rhine, the Armorici, who inhabited Brittany, and had fled thither from Britain upon the invasion of the Saxons, submitted to him. In 507, this Prince subdued the whole country from the Loire to the Pyrenean mountains, and made himself master
of

of several petty kingdoms and states ; and dying in 511, at forty-five years of age, was buried in the church of St. Genevieve at Paris, then known by the name of St. Peter and St. Paul.

The generals of the Franks, on the conquest of Gaul, distributed the lands among their officers ; and these, with the clergy, constituted their first great councils, or parliaments. The first government here seems to be a kind of mixt monarchy, nothing of moment being transacted without the concurrence of the grand council, consisting of the principal officers, who held their lands by military tenures : as to the conquered Gauls, historians are of opinion, that they were reduced to a state of servitude, and only cultivated the lands for their masters the Franks ; having no property they could call their own. This appears to be the constitution of the government of the Franks, during the first race of their Kings, till Charles Martel usurped the sovereignty in 732.

Charles Martel, the son of Pepin, the Duke of Austrasia, and mayor of the palace to the Kings Thierry the First, and Clovis the Third, was also Duke of Austrasia, and Mayor of the Palace to Chilperic the Third, and Thierry the Second, in the names of whom he long exercised the sovereign power, as his father Pepin had done in the names of Thierry the First, and Clovis the Third. Under the administration of Charles Martel, the Sacer-

racens, who at this time were masters of the south of France, penetrating into the heart of the kingdom, were entirely defeated by him, which victory rendered him so popular, that, with the consent of the States, and the Pope, who looked upon him as the deliverer of Christendom, he assumed the dominion of France in his own name, styling himself Duke of all France; and, having a victorious army at his devotion, not only set the King aside, but altered the constitution, depriving both the nobility and clergy of their share in the government, and rendering himself an absolute Prince.

Charles Martel, dying in 741, was succeeded by his two sons Carloman and Pepin, who, sharing the government of the kingdom between them, and acting together, reduced the Bavarians, the Alemans, the Saxons, and the Sclavonians. In 746, Carloman, retiring of his own accord to a convent, left his brother Pepin in full possession of the French monarchy, who assuming the royal title and dignity, as well as the power, was proclaimed and crowned King of France at Soisson, in 751, being in the thirty-eighth year of his age, and thus put an end to the first race of Kings, called the Merovingian line.

Pepin, surnamed the short, in whom began the second race of Kings, called the Carlovinian line, as is supposed from his father Charles Martel, immediately restored the no-

bility and clergy to their ancient rights and privileges, upon promising to confirm his usurpation, and set aside the Merovingian line of Kings. He also divided the provinces amongst his principal nobility, and granted them the liberty of exercising sovereign authority in their respective governments, from which privilege, they at length became independent, only acknowledging the King for their head; and this revolution gave rise to the numerous principalities, and the several parliaments in France: for every province retained the same form of government which had been exercised in general over the whole kingdom; no laws being made without the concurrence of the grand council, consisting of the clergy and nobility.

King Pepin, having enlarged his dominions by the accession of the Dutchy of Aquitaine and several other conquests, died in 768, and was succeeded by his two sons Charles and Carloman: but Carloman dying in 771, left Charles in full possession of the French monarchy. Charles, afterwards surnamed Charlemagne, or Charles the Great, who, at the death of his father Pepin, was in the twenty-fifth year of his age, in 772, entered into a war against the Saxons, and defeated them in the neighbourhood of Paderborn. In 774, he marched against Desiderius, King of the Lombards, whom he defeated and took prisoner, and caused himself to be crowned King of Lombardy.

Imme-

Immediately after the conquest of Lombardy, Pope Adrian the First passed a decree, in which he acknowledged Charles King of Italy, and Patrician of Rome; and in 775, in a council held at Rome, he granted him the right of ordering and confirming the election of Popes. In 777, Charles concluded a treaty of peace with the Saxons and Saracens; and the year following marched with an army into Spain, in order to settle the Ibinalarabi in Saragossa. While he was upon this expedition, he received the homage of all the Princes between the Pyrenean mountains and the river Ebro.

Charles, being returned from his expedition into Spain, restored the kingdom of Aquitaine, in favour of his second son Lewis, and, marching into Germany, defeated the Saxons, in the country of Hesse. In 780, he undertook a second expedition to Rome, attended by his two sons Pepin and Lewis, the former of whom was crowned by the Pope, King of Lombardy, and the latter King of Aquitaine. In the mean time, Witekind, chief of the Saxons, having persuaded that nation to revolt, attacked some of Charlemagne's generals, and totally routed them: but the King marching against the Saxon general, not only defeated him, but compelled him to profess himself a Christian, and submit to baptism; after which he subdued the kingdom of Bretany.

In 787, the dutchy of Bavaria was united to the crown of France, in consequence of the
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infidelity of Tassilon, duke of that country, who, notwithstanding he was nearly related to Charlemagne, provoked that Prince to seize his dominions, and throw both himself and his son into a convent. About the same time the King's generals routed an army of Huns and Abares, which had penetrated into Italy, by way of Friuli, and likewise defeated an army of Greeks, commanded by Adalgisus.

In 796, Charlemagne transplanted the Saxons from their own country, to prevent further troubles from them, and distributed them in different parts of his dominions; some in Flanders, some in Switzerland, and other places, and their country was re-peopled by the A-drites, a nation of Sclavonia. About this time, the King made himself master of Austria and Hungary, which then constituted the kingdom of the Abares or Huns; in 799, he seized the islands of Majorca and Minorca; and in 800, he was crowned emperor of the west; and thus the empire of the Romans, which expired in the year 476, in the person of Augustulus, the last emperor of the west, and which was afterwards filled by the Heruli, the Ostrogoths, and the Lombards, revived in Charlemagne, and continues to this day.

In the mean time, the King of Persia, by his ambassadors, made a formal renunciation of the Holy Land to Charlemagne, whose son Lewis, King of Aquitaine, having waged war against the Saracens, made himself master of
Barce-

Barcelona. In 803, Nicephorus being crowned emperor of the East, which empire was likewise called the Empire of the Greeks and the lower empire, acknowledged Charlemagne emperor of the West ; and the limits of the eastern and western empires were settled by the two Emperors. About the same time, Charlemagne, in order to complete the reduction of the Saxons, deprived their children of their paternal succession ; after which he conquered the Pannonians, the Sclavonians, and the Huns.

In 805, the emperor held a council at Thionville, in which he made an authentic disposition of his dominions among his three sons ; about which time, the Normans, Angles, Danes, and other barbarous nations in the north, began to be known in France from their piratical descents upon the coasts of that kingdom. Charlemagne foresaw, with great concern, the ravage that these barbarians were one day likely to commit ; and therefore endeavoured to prevent them : with this view, he built a formidable navy, which was always manned, and ready to put to sea ; he had ports at the mouths of all considerable rivers, guard ships on the coasts, fortifications along the shore, and a militia properly disposed for the defence of those fortifications, and thus he covered the coasts of his extensive dominions.

In the year 809, the emperor lost his son Pepin, King of Italy, whose son Barnard, though

though an infant, he appointed to succeed his father; the following year he was afflicted with the death of his eldest son Charles; and being now near seventy years of age, and for some time infirm, he associated his only surviving son Lewis, King of Aquitaine, in the empire; and upon the 28th of January, 814, this great Prince died, in the seventy-first year of his age, the forty-seventh year of his reign, the forty-third from his conquest of Italy, and the fourteenth from his being crowned emperor, and was interred in the church of Aix-la-Chapelle.

Upon the death of Charlemagne, his only son Lewis, surnamed the Gentle, at the age of thirty-six years, was proclaimed Emperor of the Romans, and King of France; and in 816, was crowned at Rheims, by Pope Stephen the Fifth. This prince conciliated the affections of the Saxons, by restoring them to the right of succession, of which they had been deprived by his father. In 817, having concluded a peace with Abderamen, King of the Saracens, he made his eldest son Lotharius his colleague in the empire, created his second son Pepin, King of Aquitaine, and his third son Lewis, King of Bavaria. The emperor, having conquered the Bretons, Gascons and Hungarians, marches against Barnard King of Italy, the son of his elder brother Charles, who, being provoked that his grandfather Charlemagne should confer the imperial dignity on Lewis, in preference to himself, had recourse to arms; but being defeated and

taken prisoner, the emperor ordered his eyes to be put out, under which operation he died; and upon his death the kingdom of Italy was re-united to the Crown of France.

In 822, Lotharius, at the desire of his father Lewis, went to Italy, where he was crowned Emperor by Pope Paschal. About the year 828, the inhabitants of Navarre, whom the Emperor had neglected to defend against their neighbours, chose a King for themselves, named Inigo, who laid the foundation of the kingdom of Navarre and Arragon, and whose posterity, after expelling the Moors and Saracens, united the whole Spanish monarchy under Charles the Fifth.

In 830, Charles the Bald, the Emperor's son by a second wife Judith, a Bavarian princess, having had no share in the former partition, obtained Alemania, together with Rhetia, and part of Burgundy, which were dismembered from the dominions of his three brothers. These princes being offended at this division, which they ascribed to the intrigues of their step-mother Judith, accused her of incontinency with Bernard, Count of Barcelona, and under pretence of avenging the honour of their father, stripped him of his dominions, and obliged him and the empress to retire to a monastery: but in a diet, held at Nimeguen, Lewis was restored to his crown, and Lotharius excluded from his partnership in the imperial dignity.

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In the year 833, the emperor's sons conspired against him a second time, and joining their forces, defeated him, and took him prisoner : but the brothers growing jealous of one another, afforded their father an opportunity of getting himself restored once more to his throne. In 835, the emperor, finding himself in a weak and declining state, made a new partition among his children, but without naming a successor to the empire. To Lotharius, he gave Italy ; to Lewis, Bavaria and Saxony ; to Pepin, Aquitaine, and to Charles, France and Burgundy : but this division giving new offence to the three elder brothers, they renewed the war against their father, who, upon the death of his son Pepin in 838, bestowed the dominions of that prince on his own son Charles, in prejudice of his grandchildren, Pepin's two sons. So flagrant an act of injustice incensed the nobility of Aquitaine to such a degree, that the emperor found himself under the necessity of marching an army into their country, of which division his son Lewis of Bavaria availing himself, seized all the places that suited his conveniency.

The emperor having humbled the nobility of Aquitaine, marched against his son the King of Bavaria ; but being reduced to an ill state of health by his misfortunes, and the grief occasioned from the unnatural behaviour of his children ; and moreover terrified by a total eclipse of the sun which happened while he was upon this march, he lingered for forty

days, and died on the 20th of June, 840, in the seventy-second year of his age, and the twenty-seventh of his reign; and was buried in the church of St. Arnold at Mentz.

Upon the death of Lewis the Gentle, Lotharius succeeded as Emperor and King of Italy, Lewis as King of Germany, and Charles the Bald as King of France. In 841, Lewis and Charles entered into an alliance against the Emperor Lotharius; while Pepin the son of Pepin their brother, made great preparations, in order to recover Aquitaine from Charles, whose tranquility was also disturbed by the Bretons; and to add to his misfortunes, the Normans threatened an invasion upon the coasts of his kingdom. Lotharius, having in vain endeavoured to penetrate into the dominions of his brother Lewis, falls upon Nuestria, and obliged Charles to make a cession of a considerable part of that province to him: but Charles and Lewis having joined their forces, marched against Lotharius, who was likewise joined by young Pepin; and upon the 25th of June, 842, a battle ensued, in the neighbourhood of Fontenoy, which was one of the most memorable, as well as the most bloody, recorded in the History of France. In this battle, Lotharius and Pepin were totally defeated; and it is said, that on both sides there fell upwards of an hundred thousand men.

At length the three brothers, after a ruinous war, agreed upon a peace and a new division of territories. Charles the Bald retained Aquitaine and Neustria. Lewis had all Germany, whence he was named Germanicus, and Lotharius, together with the title of Emperor, had Italy, Provence, Franche Comté, the Lyonnois, and other countries inclosed by the Rhone, the Rhine, the Soane, the Meuse, and the Schelde. In the mean time, Nomenoe, who had been constituted Duke of Britany by Lewis the Gentle, availing himself of the disturbances in France, obtained considerable advantages over Charles the Bald, and assumed the title of King, and over this province Charles was never able to preserve any more than the supreme jurisdiction, or right of homage.

In the year 850, Lotharius waged war with the Moors and Saracens, who were become masters of Benevento; and Charles the Bald, being engaged against the Normans, who had invaded France, was once more dispossessed of Aquitaine by Pepin; but that prince was soon stripped of his conquest, and being taken prisoner, was shaved by order of Charles, and shut up in the Abbey of St. Medard at Soissons. In the mean time the Normans continued the most horrid ravages in France; and Pepin having made his escape out of prison, returned to Aquitaine, where he was once more taken prisoner, and confined at Senlis, by order of Charles, who at the same

time caused all his sons to be shaved. The people of Aquitaine, having Pepin no longer to set up in opposition to Charles the Bald, invited the son of Lewis, King of Germany, who, being defeated by Charles, in 854, was forced to return home. In the mean time, Lotharius, whose ambition, perfidy, and other vices, had been so prejudicial to the interests of his family, finding himself draw near his end, took the habit of a monk, that, according to the superstition of the times, he might by this second baptism, as it was then called, atone for all his crimes, and though he lived a tyrant die a saint. In this disguise of a monk, which he did not wear quite a week, he died on the 29th of September, 855, leaving behind him three sons, Lewis, Lotharius, and Charles. Lewis, who had been associated by his father in the government, had the kingdom of Italy and the title of Emperor, by the name of Lewis the Second. Lotharius had the greatest part of the dominions his father held in France, and was stiled King of Lorraine, which is a name derived from him: the rest, consisting of Provence, Dauphiné, and part of the kingdom of Burgundy, fell to the youngest, Charles, who was stiled King of Provence.

About the same time, Charles the Bald declared his son Charles, though but a child, King of Aquitaine, with which nomination the people of that province were so pleased for the present, that the Normans landing in
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their country, they took arms with alacrity, and attacked them with such vigour and valour, that scarce three hundred of them found their way back to their ships. This fit of loyalty, did not, however, last long; they became more discontented than ever, renounced their allegiance to Charles, recalled Pepin, whose affairs were so desperate, that he joined with the Normans, and in conjunction with them pillaged the countries over which he pretended to reign. In a little time they deserted him, and had recourse to Lewis King of Germany; and while Charles the Bald was, with all his forces, besieging a strong post, which the Danes had taken in the heart of his dominions, the malecontents in France, after the example of those in Aquitaine, invited Lewis of Germany to come and take possession of the kingdom, which he accordingly did, in 858, with a formidable army, while Charles abandoned by the greatest part of his subjects, was obliged to raise the siege, and retire into a distant part of his dominions; upon this Lewis was crowned King of France, the nobility and bishops paid homage to him, and the princes of the blood royal acquiesced in the revolution.

In the mean time, some French lords, growing jealous of the Germans, represented to Lewis, that, being called to the throne by the nobility, having the bishops at his devotion, and no army in the field to oppose him, it might be proper for him to send back the
troops

troops he had brought with him, in order to fix the affections of his new subjects, by appearing to rely entirely upon their attachment; and hinted to him, at the same time, that, when this was done, his competitor Charles might be prevailed upon, in consideration of some small territory, to renounce his pretensions. Lewis followed their advice, and then sent them to treat with Charles, with whom they had been all this time acting in concert. They acquainted him, that his brother Lewis having sent back his own army, all he had to do was, to march with the forces that were still about him, towards Lewis, who, upon the approach of Charles, found himself obliged to retire into his German dominions; and thus Charles was restored in 859, with as much ease as he had been dethroned.

In the year 869, Lotharius, King of Lorraine dying without legitimate issue, the throne of Lorraine as well as that of Provence, which he inherited of his brother Charles, became vacant; and the emperor not being in a situation to make good his claim to the succession of his brother's dominions, his uncles Charles the Bald and Lewis the German, taking the advantage of this conjuncture, seized upon their nephew's dominions, and agreed upon a treaty of partition.

In 875, the Emperor Lewis the second died at Milan, without issue male, and his death
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was followed soon after, by that of Lewis King of Germany, upon which Charles the Bald marched into Italy, and obtained the imperial crown, notwithstanding the opposition of Carloman, the son of Lewis, King of Germany, who, with his two brothers, divided the dominions of their father between them; and Charles the bald having attacked them, with a view to recover what he had ceded in the last partition of the kingdom of Lorrain, was defeated by Lewis the second son of the deceased Lewis the Germanic. Soon after this, Charles the Bald being persuaded by the Pope to come into Italy with an army, was poisoned by his own physician, Zedekias a Jew, and died in repassing the Alps, on the 6th of October, 877, in the second year of his imperial reign, the thirty-eighth of his regal reign, and the fifty-fourth of his age.

Upon the death of Charles the Bald, his only son Lewis, surnamed the Stammerer, succeeded to the regal and imperial dignities; but dying in 879, his two sons Lewis and Carloman divided the kingdom of France between them. Lewis had Neustria, and part of Burgundy; and Carloman had Aquitaine and Septimania; and Carloman, the eldest son of Lewis Germanicus, succeeded to the imperial crown. In the mean time, Bosó, brother-in-law to Charles the Bald, and son-in-law to the Emperor Lewis the Second, erected Arles into a kingdom, which comprehended Provence, Dauphine, the Lyonnois, Savoy, Franche

Franche Comté, and great part of the dukedom of Burgundy. Lewis and Carloman, Kings of France, having entered into an alliance against Boso, defeated him in several battles; and in 880, Lewis of Germany, second son of Lewis Germanicus, declared war against the French Kings, Lewis and Carloman, who were at length obliged to make a cession to Lewis of Germany of that part of Lorrain, which had been possessed by Charles the Bald, and Lewis the Stammerer.

By the death of the Emperor Carloman, which happened in 881, his brother Charles the Fat, succeeded to the imperial crown. In the mean time, the Normans continuing their ravages, were defeated by Lewis the Third of France, upon the banks of the Schelde: but that prince dying in 882, without issue, left his brother Carloman sole King of France; and in 884, Carloman being killed by a wild boar, as he was hunting, the Emperor Charles the Fat seized upon the kingdom of France, in prejudice of a posthumous son of Lewis the Stammerer, and possessed almost as great an extent of dominions as Charlemagne; but being too weak to bear such good fortune, he sunk under its weight.

In the year 885, the Normans arrived with a fleet and army before Paris, and laid siege to it, both by sea and land; which siege lasting two years, Charles concluded an ignominious treaty with them, in consequence of which

which they retired from before Paris. In 888, the Emperor Charles dying, without issue, the scorn and contempt of his people, after he had been divested of the imperial dignity, Arnold, a bastard son of the Emperor Carloman, succeeded to the imperial crown, to the prejudice of Charles the Simple, who was also upon no other pretence, than his tender years, excluded from the throne of France, which Eudes, count of Paris, and son of Robert le Fort, Duke of France, took possession of, under pretence of his having been descended in a right line from Childebrand, the brother of Charles Martel, on the father's, and on the mother's, from Adelaide, the daughter of Lewis the Gentle : but the true cause of his elevation to the throne was the public necessity, the unbiaſſed voices of the nobility, and his own superior merit.

In the year 892, Eudes having routed the Normans, was yet compelled to grant them advantageous conditions. He was only in possession of the provinces between the river Seine and the Pyrenean mountains ; the country between the Seine and the Meuse, being left in possession of Charles the Simple, against whom he continued to wage war : but died at La Fere, in Picardy, in 898, in the fortieth year of his age.

Charles the Simple, who had been crowned King so early as the year 893, upon the death of his competitor, was acknowledged, in his
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own right, King of France, but soon began to be despised, for not making a proper use of a fair opportunity he had, of recovering part of his dominions, and establishing his reputation, by the revolt of the inhabitants of Lorraine against Zuentibold, Duke of that country, and a bastard son of Arnold the emperor, who died about this time, and was succeeded by his son Lewis the Fourth. The nobility of France, having had leisure to frame their system, had now the fairest opportunity of carrying it into execution. Such therefore, as had been entrusted with, or had got into possession of, governments, demanded confirmations of them, not barely for life, but to them and their heirs: and either, by their own power, or by the assistance of some great persons at court, obtained what they demanded, upon the easy terms of doing homage.

The Normans continuing their descents upon France, and committing the most horrible depredations, Charles, moved by the remonstrances of his people, who wished for peace almost upon any terms, at length, in 912, concluded with the Normans the famous treaty of St. Clair upon the Epte, by which he disposed of his daughter Giselle, to Rollo the Norman chief, with part of Neustria, which had already obtained the name of Normandy, and of which this Rollo was the first duke, upon condition, that he should yield homage to him for that province, and embrace the Christian religion. Rollo likewise obtain^d the
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lordship of Britany, subject however, to the Supreme jurisdiction of the crown of France, to which it became a rear fief or mesne-tenure, by virtue of that treaty.

About the same time, died the Emperor Lewis the Fourth, in whom ended the line of Charlemagne in Germany, through the weakness of Charles the Simple, who, finding himself reduced to a small patrimony, in consequence of the usurpations of the nobility of his kingdom, had it not in his power to assert his right to the empire. The imperial dignity from this period became elective, and the dignities or great offices, which before had been only commissions, were rendered hereditary, because the empire had ceased to be such. Conrad, Duke of Franconia, was the first elected emperor, after that dignity had been refused by Otho, Duke of Saxony, on account of his great age. His authority was not however acknowledged in Italy, where the Popes were grown powerful, and the government had been usurped for above sixty years before by petty tyrants. Conrad, dying in 920, Henry, surnamed the Fowler, son of that Otho who refused the imperial dignity, was elected emperor.

In 922, Robert the brother of Eudes, the late king, having formed a strong party against Charles the Simple, set up for the throne, and was crowned at Rhiems : but Charle marching against him, charged his forces, the 15th

of June, 923, and unexpectedly killed him on the spot, with his own hand: yet Hugo, the son of Robert, and Herbert, Count of Vermandois, not only restored the battle, but in the end beat the King's army, and made themselves masters of his baggage: the King being afterwards taken prisoner by Herbert, was confined to the castle of Peronne, where he died, in 929, in the fiftieth year of his age. Egiva, the queen of this unfortunate monarch, fled with her son Lewis into England, to the court of her brother Athelstan.

Upon the death of Robert, and captivity of Charles, in 923, there were several competitors for the succession; the principal of these were Hugo, Duke of France; the son of Robert, by the sister of Herbert, Count of Vermandois; Herbert himself, and Rodolph, Duke of Burgundy, who espoused Emma, the daughter of Duke Robert, and sister of Hugo. Rodolph being elected king, was crowned at Soissons the 13th of July, 923, and was obliged, upon his accession to the throne, to distribute great part of the crown lands among the grandees, in order to gain them over to his interest; though the southern provinces of the kingdom never acknowledged Rodolph's authority.

In 924, Rodolph turned his arms against William, Duke of Aquitaine, who was forced to pay homage to him; and this war was scarce ended, before the king found himself engaged in

in another war against the Normans, who came in prodigious numbers from the north, under the command of one Rainold, who fell upon Burgundy, and wasted it with fire and sword. While Rodolph was employed against the Normans, the nobles of Aquitaine revolted, and submitted themselves to the King of Germany; the Hungarians penetrating into France, were induced to retire by a large sum of money; and, in 928, Herbert, Count of Vermandois, prevailed on Rodolph to grant him the county of Loan, upon condition not to restore Charles the Simple to his liberty.

After the death of Charles the Simple, Rodolph acted with great spirit, and endeavoured to humble the nobility, who for the most part submitted to him: and, standing no longer in fear of the Count of Vermandois, stripped him of all the territories which he had ceded to him before by treaty. He repelled the Hungarians and Bulgarians, who made a new irruption into France, and acted in all respects, suitable to his dignity; but died upon the 15th of January, 936, without issue male, upon which the duchy of Burgundy devolved to his brother Hugh, surnamed the Black.

Upon the death of Rodolph, Hugh, Duke of France and Burgundy, Count of Paris and Orleans, surnamed the Great, the Abbot, and the White, a man of vast power and influence, proposed to the nobility, that a deputation should be appointed to go over to the court of

Athelstan, King of England, and invite the dowager of Charles the Simple, and her son Lewis, to return; which proposal being agreed to, Lewis the Fourth, surnamed the Stranger, from his having lived in England, ascended the throne at the age of sixteen years, and was crowned at Laon, upon the 20th of June, 936, and, in 938, began to make preparations for the recovery of Lorraine from the Emperor Otho, at the request of the Lorrainers themselves, who were by this time tired of the German yoke. In order the more readily to accomplish his purpose, Lewis married Gerberga, daughter of Henry the First, surnamed the Fowler, sister of the Emperor Otho the First, and widow of Gilbert, Duke of Lorraine. Lewis having made some progress in Lorraine, Otho marched an army into that country, defeated the rebels, and compelled Lewis to withdraw.

In the year 940, a dangerous civil war broke out in France, between the King and his Grantees, which lasted several years, and at last terminated in a peace, concluded by the mediation of the Pope, and of the Emperor Otho, who had the generosity to declare himself against the rebels in France, notwithstanding they had acknowledged him for their King. In 942, William, Duke of Normandy, having been assassinated by order of Arnold, Earl of Flanders, Lewis seized on the duchy of Normandy, in prejudice of young Richard, the son of William: but forfeiting his word to
Hugh

Hugh the Great, Count of Paris, to whom he had promised a share of Normandy, on condition of his not disturbing him in that enterprise, Hugh joined the Normans, who not only defeated the King, but took him prisoner; and before he obtained his release, he was obliged to restore Normandy to the young Duke, and to yield the county of Laon to Hugh. In 945, Hugh had recourse to arms again, and maintained a most bloody war against the King, who was assisted by the Kings of Germany and Burgundy, and by the Earl of Flanders. Hugh, having been excommunicated by the Pope, was obliged to listen at length to terms of pacification, and to restore to the King the county of Laon. This peace was concluded in 951; and in 954, the King died by a fall from his horse, in the thirty-third year of his age, and the nineteenth year of his reign, leaving among other issue, Lothaire, whom he had the precaution to associate with him in the kingdom three years before his death, and Charles, Duke of Lorrain.

Lothaire, the eldest son of Lewis the Stranger, and of Gerberga, sister-in-law to Hugh the Great, succeeded to the crown at the age of fifteen years, and was put under the protection of Hugh the Great, who died in 956, leaving several children behind him, the eldest of whom, Hugh 'Capet, succeeded to the crown of France. In 961, Lothaire made some attempts upon Normandy, which did not succeed; and, in 974, the Emperor Otho the

Second, in order to prevent the Kings of France from ever recovering Lorrain, divided that country into Upper and Lower Lorrain, and bestowed the lower division upon Charles, the brother of Lothaire, on condition of yielding homage to him for it: after this partition of Lorrain, the King made several efforts to recover it, with some success: but lost the advantages he had gained, by a treaty, in which he yielded that province to the Emperor, on condition of holding it as a fief of the crown of France. This treaty was concluded in 980, and in 986, Lothaire died, as is supposed, of poison administered to him by his wife Emma, daughter of Lothaire, King of Italy, in the forty-sixth year of his age, and the thirty-second of his reign, leaving a son named Lewis, whom he had associated with him in the throne.

Lewis, surnamed the Slothful, the son of Lothaire and of Emma, succeeded to the crown at the age of twenty years, by the name of Lewis the Fifth. He married Blanche, the daughter of a Lord of Aquitaine, and reigned but one year; having been poisoned, as it is believed, in the same manner his father was, by the Queen his wife, who seems to have hated her husband, and at one time parted with him, in order to return to Aquitaine. His uncle Charles, Duke of Lorrain, should by the right of succession have come to the crown; but Hugh Capet seizing it, this proved the last Monarch of the Carolinian race, which pos-
sessed

seised the throne of France two hundred and thirty-six years.

Hugh Capet, Duke of France, the great grandson of Robert the Strong, and the founder of the third race of Kings, called the Capetine race, mounted the throne at the age of forty-five years, and was crowned at Rheims, on the 3d of July 987; and the year following had his son Robert crowned at Orleans, in order to secure the succession to him. Charles, Duke of Lorrain, determining to maintain his title to the crown, surprized Laon, and afterwards became master of Rheims: but Hugh, entering into an intrigue with the Bishop of Laon, by the assistance of that perfidious prelate, took the place, and made Charles prisoner, together with his consort, and Arnold, Archbishop of Rheims, natural son of King Lothaire, who had betrayed that city to Charles. This put an end to the dispute: for all who had hitherto adhered to Charles, readily submitted, and did homage to the Kings Hugh and Robert. As for the unfortunate Duke of Lorrain, he was sent to Orleans, and closely confined, as long as he lived, together with his Dutchess. His son enjoyed the dutchy of Lorrain, but died without issue male; and in him, as is generally believed, the male line of Charlemagne became extinct.

Under this reign, Paris became the seat of government, and the capital of the monarchy, in virtue of its being the place of the King's
reli-

residence, and the principal city of his hereditary estates. The government of this Monarch was exactly suited to the situation of his affairs: he conducted all things with order and circumspection, and had the singular honour, not only of establishing a new family, but a new government without any remarkable circumstance of violence or bloodshed. He died on the 24th of October, in the year 997, in the 57th year of his age, and the eighth of his reign, and was buried in the abbey of St. Denis.

Robert, at the death of his father, was in the twenty-seventh year of his age, and possessed, in a very high degree of perfection, all the graces of body and mind, which rendered him universally beloved. Henry, Duke of Burgundy, brother to Hugh Capet, and uncle to King Robert, dying without legitimate issue, in 1001 bequeathed his dutchy to the King, but before he could enter into possession, there started up two claimants. The first of these was Eudes, natural son to the deceased Duke; the other was William Otho, Count of Burgundy, son of the Dutchess dowager of Burgundy, by her first husband, who pretended to be adopted by Duke Henry. This war lasted for several years, but at last the King reduced the country, with which he thought fit to invest his second son Henry.

Robert, in 1026, having lost his eldest son Hugh, whom he caused to be crowned King, in 1017, associated his eldest surviving son
Henry

Henry in the throne, much against the inclination of his Queen Constantia, who wanted to prefer his youngest son Robert. At length, after refusing the crown of the empire, and the kingdom of Italy, King Robert died at Melun, the 20th of July 1031, in the 60th year of his age, and the 33d year of his reign, and was buried at St. Denis.

Henry, who had been crowned at Rheims in his father's life-time, was about 27 years of age when he mounted the throne, and, with all the vigour of a young man, possessed the sagacity and prudence of one more advanced in years, which secured him from having the crown torn off his head. His mother, who mortally hated him, and who was resolved always to govern, excited a rebellion against him, in which she was supported by Eudes, Count of Champagne, and Baldwin, Count of Flanders. Robert, surnamed the Devil, Duke of Normandy, assisted Henry, who beat the Count of Champagne in three successive battles, and was very near taking him prisoner. At length things were compromised with the Queen dowager, who died the year following of meer vexation, and Prince Robert, to whom the King gave the dutchy of Burgundy, and from whom proceeded the first race of the Dukes of Burgundy of the blood royal; and to acknowledge his obligations to the Duke of Normandy, Henry confers on him the towns of Gisors, Chaumont, Pontoise, and the whole district of Vexin.

In

In the mean time, a bloody war broke out in France, occasioned by the succession to the kingdom of Burgundy, which consisted of a considerable part of Provence, of all Dauphiné, the provinces of Lyonnois, La Bresse, and Bugey, with the remaining part of the country, extending as far as Mount St. Claude. This was called the second kingdom of Burgundy, and ended by the death of Rodolphus the Third, who died without issue, in 1033, having bequeathed his dominions to the Emperor Conrad the Second, surnamed the Salic. Conrad annexed as much of this kingdom as was in his power to the Empire, the remaining parts were dismembered, but from the ruins of this kingdom were formed the countries of Provence, Burgundy, Viennois, and Savoy. Upon the death of Rodolphus, Eudes, Count of Champagne, looking upon himself as the undoubted heir of the kingdom of Burgundy, from his being the nephew of the late King, by his sister Berthra, who, after the decease of this Count's father, espoused Robert, Duke of France, immediately made an irruption into the kingdom of Burgundy, and obtained possession of a great part of it: but the Emperor quickly dispossessed him, upon which Eudes attacked the country of Lorrain, and made himself master of Bar, but was killed in an engagement by the Duke of Lorrain, in the year 1037; and thus the Emperor was released from any further disturbances, on account of these pretensions.

In 1040, Eudes, the King's youngest brother, took up arms against Henry, and was supported by Stephen and Thibaud, sons of the Count of Champagne: but the King, having routed their forces, took Eudes prisoner, and sent him to Orleans, where he was confined for about three years. Thibaud and Stephen were dispossessed of great part of their lands, and Galeran, Count of Meulan, having joined them, forfeited his country, which was confiscated to the King's use, and united to the crown.

William the Bastard, natural son of Robert the Devil, who died in the year 1035, in his return from the Holy Land, whither he had gone a pilgrimage, succeeded his father in the dutchy of Normandy, while yet a minor; soon after which, disputes arose in that country about the succession; and several Lords, descendants of the Dukes of Normandy, set up their respective titles to the dutchy. King Henry, at the beginning of these commotions, had not determined which side to declare for: he was inclined to avail himself by the divisions in Normandy: but was restrained by a promise which he had made to Robert, before he set out for the Holy Land, to support his son in the succession; he resolved at last, to march with a good army, to the assistance of the young Duke; and, in conjunction with his forces, engaged the malecontent Lords at Val des Dunes, where, exposing his person more than was necessary, he was beaten from his horse, and very near being killed. At length,
after

after an obstinate dispute, the malecontents were totally routed in 1046; and to this victory Duke William stood indebted for the possession of his dominions.

The King, afterwards growing jealous of the encreasing power of the young Duke, and having some disputes with Geoffrey Martel, Count of Anjou, in which the Duke took part on his behalf, soon compromised his share of the quarrel, and left the Count and Duke, who had great animosity against each other, to fight it out. And afterwards, when new troubles arose in Normandy, and William de Arques, Count de Toulouse, son of Duke Richard the Second, and cousin of Robert the Devil, set up his title to the dukedom, the King favoured the malecontents, at first privately; and at length invaded Normandy in their favour, in which enterprize however his forces received a very severe check: and the Duke triumphed over those, as he had done over his former enemies: for in 1054, the King having invaded Normandy with two powerful armies, one commanded by himself, and the other by his brother Eudes, whom he had released out of prison, the army commanded by the King was harrassed and beaten, by repeated disadvantages; and his brother's army totally defeated, which obliged the King to conclude a peace upon such terms as were agreeable to the Duke.

In 1059, the King finding his health decay, and judging it expedient to provide as well for

for the security of his kingdom as for that of his family, caused his son Philip, then about seven years of age, to be crowned at Rheims ; appointed his own brother-in-law, Baldwin, Count of Flanders, his guardian ; and on the 4th of April, 1060, departed this life in the fifty-fifth year of his age, and the thirtieth of his reign, and was buried at St. Denis. According to some writers, the King died by taking a dose of physic, and drinking after it, contrary to the express direction of his physician : but others incline to think, that the physician, under the name of a medicine, administered poison.

Baldwin, the young King's guardian, having continued to discharge his trust with great honour, died in 1067 ; and, in 1073, King Philip was beaten in the neighbourhood of St. Omer, by Robert, the younger son of Baldwin, who seized Flanders, in prejudice to his nephews, the sons of his elder brother, who was slain in this war. Not long afterwards, Philip engaged in a war with William, Duke of Normandy, who was now King of England *, in which he met with some success, and afterwards entered into intrigues with Robert, the eldest son of William, who revolted against him. In 1091, Philip, having repudiated his wife Bertha, by whom he had several children, married Bertrada of Montfort, whom he inveigles away from her husband, Foulk Rechin, Count of Anjou, for which he was excommunicated by the Pope,

* See Vol. III. p. 49. *& seq.*

in 1094. Upon the death of Bertha, he flattered himself that the Pope would approve of his marriage with Bertrada; but he was excommunicated once more in 1095, by the council of Clermont.

In the year 1100, Philip was excommunicated anew in the council of Poitiers, but obtained absolution. some time afterwards, upon a promise of breaking off all connections with Bertrada, who, having taken the veil as a nun of Fontevrault, died about the year 1107. In the year 1103, Philip associated Lewis his son and heir apparent with him in the government, and died at Melun. on the 29th of July 1108, in the fifty-seventh year of his age, and the fiftieth of his reign, and was buried by his own desire in the abbey of St. Benedict on the Loire.

Lewis the Sixth, called also Lewis the Gross, was about 30 years old at the death of his father; and, at the beginning of his reign, met with many difficulties, from the turbulent behaviour of several of the nobility, who were encouraged and supported in their rebellion, by King Henry the Fifth of England, in order that he might have nothing to fear for his dutchy of Normandy. This conduct upon the part of the King of England, produced a war between Lewis and Henry, which was remarkable for a great number of battles; the vassals joining with either party, according as it suited their interests; and which was terminated by a treaty in 1114, when Henry agreed

agreed to do homage to King Lewis for his dutchy of Normandy.

In 1116. Lewis the Gros, having undertaken to protect William Crito, the son of Robert. Duke of Normandy, whom the King of England kept in confinement, and to restore him to the dutchy of Normandy, of which Henry unjustly deprived his father, became engaged in a new war with the King of England, by whom he was defeated at Brenneville, in 1119.

Lewis the Gros, still continuing to support the interest of William Crito, in Normandy, Henry of England excited the Emperor Henry the Fifth against the French King; and the Emperor, having made preparations for war, invaded Champagne in the year 1121, under pretence of revenging an affront, which was given out he had received in the council of Rheims, where he had been excommunicated. Upon this invasion, the King assembling all his vassals, and even the clergy marching out to battle, raised an army of 200,000 men, which great force so alarmed the Emperor, that he abandoned his design, and, dismissing an army he had raised in Lorrain, retired into the heart of his own dominions.

Charles, Earl of Flanders, having been assassinated by some discontented subjects, Lewis entered that country in 1127, with a small army; and having surprised the offenders, and

punished them as they deserved, adjudged this country, vacant in failure of issue, to William Crito, son of Robert, Duke of Normandy, and nephew of Henry the First of England, who still assumed the title of Duke of Normandy, and was killed in 1129, in a battle with Thierry of Alsace, supported by Henry. About the same time, the King thought fit to place the crown upon the head of his eldest son Philip, which was accordingly done at Rheims with all the usual solemnities; but that young prince having been killed by a fall from his horse, in 1131, Lewis, the second son of Lewis the Gros, was crowned at Rheims, in about a month after the death of his elder brother, by Pope Innocent the Second; and on the 1st of August 1137, Lewis the Gros died at Paris, in the 60th year of his age, and the 30th year of his reign, and was buried at St. Denis.

Lewis the Seventh, surnamed the Young, at the time of his father's demise, was 18 years of age; and had the like troubles to encounter that disturbed the beginning of his father's reign. His marriage with Eleanor, daughter and heiress of William, Duke of Aquitaine, rendered him very powerful; yet the Nobles, notwithstanding their pride had been so well humbled by Lewis the Gros, began to be tumultuous, at the instigation of Thibaud, Count of Champagne, brother to Stephen, King of England, who had also fomented disputes between the King and the court of Rome. Pope Innocent the Second, notwithstanding the King
had

had raised him to the pontificate, seized his demesnes, which were put under an interdict, on account of the archbishopric of Bourges, where Pope Innocent supported the person elected by the chapter, though the King, in virtue of his royal prerogative, had opposed this election. This so provoked Lewis, that, in an expedition to Champagne, he put the inhabitants of Vitri in Pertois to the sword, and set the town on fire, in 1143.

In order to expiate this crime, the King was persuaded by St. Bernard to undertake a crusade in person, the motive to which was the taking of Edeffa by Noradin, who threatened to fall upon the several conquests made by the Christians in the Holy Land. In 1147, the King set out, with Eleanor his Queen, and an army of fourscore thousand men. Conrad, Duke of Swabia, who had been elected Emperor, set out with a considerable army upon the same expedition: but, through the treachery of the Greeks, he was defeated by the Turks; and the King was soon after beaten by the Saracens. The European Christians laid siege to Damascus, but were obliged to raise it, as it is said, by the treachery of the Christians of Syria.

In 1149, Robert, Count of Dreux, the King's brother, returning from Jerusalem before Lewis, endeavoured to create disturbances, by imputing the bad success of the crusade to the ignorance of the King, and representing him as in-

capable of the management of public affairs, with a view to seize the administration, and, as some believe, to usurp the throne : but the Abbot Suger, who was left Regent of France, in conjunction with Roaul, Count of Vermandois, the King's brother-in-law, who married Queen Eleanor's sister, having assembled the States of the kingdom, and Pope Eugenius the Third having sent letters to the French clergy, the public tranquillity was preserved. The King embarking at one of the ports in Syria, arrived safely at Calabria, and taking Rome in his way, that he might confer with the Pope, came at length, after this disastrous expedition, into his own dominions, in the year 1149.

Lewis the Young, soon after his arrival from the crusade, took a resolution to repudiate Eleanor his Queen, upon suspicion of her having had an intrigue in Syria with his uncle the Prince of Antioch, and with a young Turk, named Saladin : under pretence of consanguinity, he obtained a divorce, and restored to her Guienne and Poitou, the dominions he had acquired by their marriage. This step, so prejudicial to the state, was opposed by Abbot Suger, with such a force of argument, that it was not put in execution till after that minister's death ; and, as he had foretold, Eleanor, in about six weeks after her divorce, married again to Henry, Count of Anjou, and Duke of Normandy, next heir to the crown of England, to which he succeeded by the name
of



of Henry the Second * ; and upon this marriage Henry was Duke of Normandy and Aquitaine, and Count of Anjou, Poitou, Touraine, and Maine ; so that he was at least as powerful in France as the King himself.

In 1154, Lewis married Constantia, daughter of Alfonso, King of Castile ; and soon afterwards made a pilgrimage to the tomb of St. James at Compostella. In 1156, a war broke out between France and England, occasioned by a claim which King Henry the Second of England laid to the county of Toulouse, in right of Eleanor his wife, as not having been given, but mortgaged only, by a Duke of Aquitaine, to the ancestor of him who was then Count : he offered therefore the sum that he supposed to be due ; and, that being refused, marched with a great army, and blocked up Toulouse : but thought fit to raise the siege. This however did not put an end to the war, which continued two years longer, and then ended in a peace. In 1167, Geoffrey, son of Henry, married Constantia, daughter of Conan, Count of Britany, who brought him the whole province for her dower, which Henry seized in name of his son. In 1169, a peace was concluded between Lewis and Henry, one of the conditions of which was, that the King of England's son Henry should marry Margaret, the daughter of the French King. In 1171, a war with England broke out anew,

* See Vol. III. p. 65.

and was concluded by a promise of marriage between Richard, the second son of Henry, and Alice, the second daughter of Lewis the Young, upon her coming to age.

In 1179, the King paid a visit of devotion to the tomb of St. Thomas à Becket of Canterbury; on his return he had his son crowned at Rheims; and adjudged the privilege of performing that ceremony to the Archiepiscopal See of Rheims, because it was then filled by his brother-in-law, the Cardinal of Sabine. At this ceremony young Henry, eldest son of the King of England, assisted as Duke of Normandy, and Philip, Count of Flanders, carried the sword of state. Soon afterwards, Lewis died, upon the 18th of September 1180, in the sixtieth year of his age, and the forty-fourth year of his reign.

Philip the Second, surnamed Augustus, succeeded his father Lewis the Seventh, at the age of fifteen years, and, notwithstanding his youth and want of experience, immediately assumed the government, which he managed with such prudence and resolution, that he suppressed every faction, cabal and insurrection in the beginning of his reign. In 1181, he annexed the county of Vermandois to the crown, in spite of Philip, Count of Flanders; and finding his subjects complain loudly of the Jews, who had got into possession of one third part of the lands in his dominions; and as on the one hand, he discovered they had exercised the

the most oppressive usury, and on the other, by chusing proper patrons, were powerfully supported by the Nobility, he obliged them to quit his territories, allowing them to carry away their personal estates: this chagrined the Nobility, whose outrages and depredations he severely checked.

In 1185, Richard, the second son of Henry, King of England, made war upon the Count of Toulouse, having some pretensions to that province as Duke of Aquitaine. Philip defended his vassal; and in 1186, waged war against the King of England, to recover such towns in the Vexin, as had been given in dower to his sister Margaret, upon her marriage with Henry, eldest son of the King of England, who died some time before this without issue. Prince Richard being now next heir to the crown, by the death of Henry, joined with Philip against his father, because he refused to let him be crowned in his own life time, in the manner he had indulged his elder brother Henry, and likewise hindered him from marrying Alice, Philip's other sister, to whom he had been affianced, and of whom it is thought Henry himself was enamoured.

Philip, in conjunction with Prince Richard, took the town of Mons, the reduction of which was soon after followed by a peace, and that by the death of Henry the Second, upon which Richard mounted the throne of England. In 1189, the two Kings of France and England went

went upon a crusade to the Holy Land *; but quarrelling there, lost sight of the chief object of the crusade, upon which the King of France returned the year following to his own dominions; and, in 1192, seized upon part of Normandy, in the absence of Richard; and by his marriage with Isabella, daughter of Baldwin, Count of Flanders and Hainaut, reunited the county of Artois to the crown.

In the year 1200, Philip entered upon a war with John, King of England, seized upon Normandy, and annexed it to the crown of France, about 300 years after its first separation: he also reduced Touraine, Anjou, Maine, and all the territories belonging to the King of England † in France, except Guienne. The Pope having deposed King John, and given his crown to the King of France, Lewis made preparations for invading England, and seized Flanders, the Count of that country being the only French vassal that opposed this war. In the mean time, a large fleet from England, joining a fleet belonging to the Earl of Flanders, surprised and entirely destroyed the French fleet; for which Philip, in 1214, had his revenge at the battle of Bouvines, where with 50,000 men, he obtained a complete victory, though not without great danger of his life, over the Emperor Otho, and his allies, the King of England, the Counts of Flanders, Bologne, Toulouse, and others, being a most powerful con-

* See Vol. III. p. 71. † Ibid. p. 73, & seq. federacy,

federacy, and commanding an army of no less than a hundred and fifty thousand men. The King, falling ill of a fever at Mantes, died on the 14th of July, 1223, in the fifty-ninth year of his age, and the forty-fourth of his reign, and was interred at St. Denis. He is allowed to have been the greatest Monarch that reigned in France from the time of Charlemagne.

Lewis the Eighth, surnamed the Lion, succeeded his father Philip Augustus, at the age of 36 years, and was crowned at Rheims the 6th of August, 1223. Henry the Third of England, instead of coming in person, or sending any to represent him at this solemnity, demanded the restitution of Normandy. The King of France refused the demand; and being sensible that as soon as the truce between him and the King of England expired, the English would renew the war, he entered into a treaty with the Emperor Frederic, and several Lords, who might have joined with the King of England. Then putting himself at the head of a numerous army, he determined to drive the English out of France, and dispossessed Henry of all his French territories, except Gascony and Bourdeaux: but instead of pursuing his conquests, he suffered himself to be persuaded by the Pope, to make war against the Albigenes, and died upon the 8th of Nov. 1226, at the siege of Avignon, and was interred at St. Denis.

Lewis

Lewis the Ninth, afterwards surnamed St. Lewis, at the age of 12 years, succeeded his father under the tutelage of his mother Blanche, the Queen dowager, who had the united power of guardian and regent, and who during the whole of her regency was employed in subduing a confederacy of the Barons and Princes against her. The Count of Toulouse, who had supported the Albigenfes, submitted himself to the King, about the beginning of this reign, and concluded a treaty with Lewis, by which he stipulated to give his daughter in marriage to Alphonfus, the King's brother, and, in failure of issue by this marriage, to suffer the county of Toulouse to revert to the crown, which accordingly happened.

About the same time, Thibaud, Count of Champagne, after having been detached from the confederacy by the Queen, engaged again with the malecontents, and agreed upon a treaty of marriage with a daughter of the Count of Britany. The Queen, getting early intelligence of this treaty, broke off the match, and brought him over a second time from the rebels, who, to punish him for his inconstancy, asserted the rights of his cousin Alice, Queen of Cyprus, to Champagne, by invading his territories. Upon this the King marched to the assistance of Thibaud, and having obliged the rebels to lay down their arms, accommodated matters between Alice and the Count of Champagne, by means of a sum of money, which he advanced Alice, and for which Thibaud ceded to him great part of his territories. The Count
of

of Britany, persisting in his revolt, had recourse to the King of England for assistance, but that Monarch refusing to relieve him, and being hard pressed by the King's forces, he submitted himself before Lewis, with a rope about his neck.

In 1238, Thibaud, Count of Champagne, desired to revoke the renunciation which he made to the king; but no attention having been paid to his request, he set out upon a crusade, at the head of several French lords, who, so long as they remained abroad, the kingdom enjoyed a state of tranquility, but upon their return from Syria, began to cabal afresh, and to take all the measures they could devise, for exciting a new civil war. At the head of this confederacy was the Count de la March; the Count of Toulouse was of the faction, and the King of England was the power chiefly depended upon. King Lewis, after trying all means to quiet the minds of the malecontents, to no purpose, at length assembled a great army, and having beaten the confederates in two different engagements, compelled the Count de la March, to sue for peace, and concluded a truce with the King of England.

St. Lewis, having resolved upon a new crusade, embarked for the Holy Land, in 1248. and was attended in this expedition by his three brothers, Robert, Count of Artois, Alphonfus, Count of Poitiers and Charles, Count of Anjou, together with the Counts of

Burgundy, Flanders, de la March, and several others, leaving Queen Blanche regent of the kingdom. In 1249, died Raymond the Seventh, Count of Toulouse, who was succeeded by his daughter Jane, wife of Alphonfus, Count of Poitiers, the king's brother. The king, in the mean time, having landed with his army in the isle of Cyprus, made a descent upon Egypt, and took the city Damietta, from whence advancing towards Cairo, his army was surrounded, beaten, and at length taken prisoners by the infidels: the king and his two brothers, Alphonfus and Charles, who, with the rest of the officers in his retinue, performed prodigies of valour, were among the prisoners; and the Count of Artois was killed in the engagement. Lewis, at length, entering into a negociation with the Saracens, restored the city of Damietta, and paid 400,000 l. for his ransom; and then embarking on board some Genoese gallies, with his queen, two brothers, and about 6000 men, being about the sixth part of the forces he brought into Egypt, landed in Syria.

In the mean time, the queen regent pressed the king to return to France, where his concerns required his presence: but notwithstanding her remonstrances, he continued four years longer in Palestine, with a view to repair the fortifications of Cæsarea Philippi, Joppa, Acra and Sidon. At length, in 1252, upon the death of his mother queen Blanche, he took a resolution of returning into France; and

and arrived at Paris about the beginning of September, 1254, when Henry the third of England visited him. In 1263, Charles, Count of Anjou, the king's brother, was declared king of the Two Sicilies by the Pope, and passing over into Italy, defeated Mainfroi and Conradine, by which victory he acquired the possession of the Two Sicilies.

In the mean time, the king laboured with incessant diligence, to correct abuses, to pacify disputes of every kind, and promote peace throughout his kingdom. He concluded a treaty with the King of Arragon; and, not long after, with the King of England, to whom he yielded several provinces, in consideration that himself, and his son Prince Edward, renounced all their pretensions to Normandy, Anjou, Maine, Touraine and Poitou; and his eldest son and heir Prince Lewis, dying in 1263, he concluded a match for Prince Philip, who was now become the eldest, with the Princess of Arragon, who had been intended for his brother. All these regulations were, in a great measure, with a view to a new crusade, which, after his brother was settled in Sicily, the king undertook: in this expedition he was attended by his three sons, his nephew, the Count of Artois, and most of the lords of his court: and embarking, in July 1270, directed his course for Africa, and landing on the coast of Barbary, made himself master of Carthage, and prepared for the siege of Tunis: but the plague infecting his army.

of which many persons of distinction and multitudes of private men died, at length the king himself was carried off, on the 25th of August, in the fifty-sixth year of his age, and forty-fourth year of his reign.

Philip the Third, who was in the twenty-sixth year of his age, immediately on his father's demise, assumed the title and state of a king; and his uncle the King of Sicily arriving with a fleet and army, he was enabled to keep the field against the Moors; and put so good a face on things, that he received in Afric, the surname of the *Hardy*, which from his subsequent conduct in Europe, he would scarcely have attained. Philip, having defeated the King of Tunis in two or three engagements, at length concluded a treaty with the infidels, and returned to France. Thibaud, Count of Champagne and King of Navarre, and Alphonfus, Count of Poitou, died in the passage. Alphonfus being also Count of Toulouse, and he and his wife dying without issue, that county reverted to the crown.

Philip, after the celebration of his father's funeral at St. Denis, and the ceremony of his own coronation, compelled the Count de Foix to surrender at discretion; and, in 1273, married his eldest son Philip to the heiress of Navarre: he chose for his own consort, Mary, daughter of the Duke of Brabant, and received the homage of Edward the First, King of England, for the lands which he held in
France,

France, after putting him in possession of the county of Agenois, which had reverted to the crown, according to treaty. In 1274, Philip declared war upon Alphonso, King of Castile, who had chosen his second son for his successor, in prejudice of the children of Ferdinand de la Cerda, his eldest son, by Blanche the sister of King Philip, and ceded the county of Venaissin to Pope Gregory the Tenth.

The severity of the King of Naples having rendered him and his family odious to a great part of his subjects, and the insolence and debauchery of the French troops in Sicily having excited an irreconcilable aversion to the whole nation, there followed a general massacre of all the French subject to the King of Naples in Sicily, on the evening of Easter Sunday, in the year 1282, so famous to all posterity, by the name of the Sicilian Vespers. It was concerted by Peter, King of Arragon, who soon afterwards seized upon the island, which produced a war in Sicily between him and Charles, King of Naples. The Pope, being in the interest of Charles, excommunicated the King of Arragon, and gave his dominions to Charles de Valois, son of Philip, King of France, who furnished his uncle Charles with a fleet and forces, for the recovery of his dominions, and putting himself at the head of a numerous army, with an intent to set his son upon the throne of Arragon, invaded Catalonia, and took Gironne, at which place the King of Arragon was killed.

Charles, King of Naples, had left his son of the same name, who, from an accident that befel him, was surnamed Charles the lame, in Sicily, with strict orders to act on the defensive, and risk nothing till his arrival with the succours that he was embarking at Marseilles: but the young prince, provoked by the Arragonese fleet, having broke through his father's instructions, was defeated and taken prisoner; which, though the King his father at first supported with constancy, yet soon afterwards broke his heart. The fleet of Arragon, flushed with the victory obtained over Charles, attacked the French fleet, consisting of three hundred sail, and took, sunk, or destroyed almost every one of them, which was not a greater loss in itself, than fatal in its consequences; since having on board the greatest part of the provisions with which the army should have been supplied, the troops were grievously distressed; and the king taking this reverse of fortune to heart, fell sick, and died at Perpignan, about the middle of September, 1285, in the forty-first year of his age, and sixteenth of his reign, and was interred at St. Denis.

Philip the Fourth, surnamed the Fair, was seventeen years of age when he succeeded his father, and was crowned at Rheims the 6th of January, together with his consort Jane, Queen of Navarre in her own right, and by whom he became also possessed of the counties of Champagne and Brie. Edward the First,
King

King of England, having performed homage to the King of France for Aquitaine, and promised his daughter in marriage to Alphonso, King of Arragon, obtained of that prince and his brother James, King of Sicily, the liberty of Charles the Lame, on condition of renouncing his pretensions to Sicily, and prevailing on the Count de Valois, to relinquish his pretensions to the kingdom of Arragon: but when Charles was released, instead of fulfilling his promise with the King of Arragon, he went to Italy, where siding with the Guelfs against the Gibellines, he was crowned King of the Two Sicilies by the Pope, and after defeating the King of Arragon, he concluded a treaty with that prince for five years.

In 1292, a war broke out between France and England, from the seizing of some Norman vessels by the English, for which Edward the First refused to make restitution. In consequence of this refusal, he was summoned to the Court of Peers, in order to answer the charge of treason against his sovereign lord the king. Edward, refusing to appear, was declared guilty of treason, and the duchy of Guienne confiscated to the king's use. In 1296, a truce for two years was agreed upon between France and England: it was also agreed, that the King of France should give his sister Margaret in Marriage to Edward the First; and his daughter Isabel to Prince Edward, together with Guienne for her dower,
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on condition of holding it by the same tenure his predecessors had done.

In 1299, Philip, by means of his brother the Count de Valois, subdued all Flanders; but, refusing to abide by the treaty agreed upon between his brother and Guy Count of Flanders, detained Guy and his two sons prisoners; at which conduct Charles of Valois was so offended, that he retired into Italy, where he married the daughter of Baldwin, Emperor of Constantinople. In 1302, the French army, commanded by Robert, Count of Artois, was defeated by the Flemings at Courtray, with the loss of twenty thousand men: and the count, together with twenty other great lords, were among the number of the slain. In the year 1303, broke out a famous contest between Pope Boniface the Eighth, and Philip the Fair, who, upon the Pope's having laid the kingdom under an interdict, assembled the three estates of the kingdom: the estates agreed to call a council, to which they might appeal against every thing that had been done by the pope, who was at last seized by the French partizans, and died of chagrin for his ill usage.

In the year 1304, King Philip, having entered Flanders, with the whole force of his dominions, obtained a complete victory over the Flemings, at Mons in Puelle: but thought it prudent, notwithstanding, to conclude a treaty

treaty with them, by which their earl was set at liberty, upon condition of doing the king homage for his country. About the same time, Pope Benedict the Eleventh, having absolved the king from the excommunication of Boniface the Eighth, died, and was succeeded in the pontificate by Pope Clement the Fifth, a Frenchman, who was crowned at Lyons, in 1305, and removed the Holy See from Rome to Avignon, where it continued till the year 1376, when Gregory the Eleventh withdrew from thence to Rome. In 1312, the order of Knights Templers was abolished, in a council held at Vienne in Dauphine, after numbers of the knights had been put to death; and about the same time, the county of Lyons was annexed to the crown, by Lewis the King's eldest son, who obtained it by conquest, from Peter of Savoy, archbishop of Lyons.

In the mean time, the old quarrel with Flanders was revived with great heat, and the king made preparations for war, which, however, were soon followed by a new treaty with the Count of Flanders. The king, having taken great care in marrying the three princes his sons, all handsome and accomplished youths, in a manner suitable to their births, was deeply affected with great suspicions that arose of the infidelity of all their wives. Upon a strict examination into this matter, Margaret, daughter to the Duke of Burgundy, and wife of Prince Lewis, and Blanche, the wife of Charles, Count de la March, appeared to
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be guilty, and to have lived, for some time, in a scandalous commerce with two men of a noble family, for which they were sentenced to perpetual imprisonment; and their gallants, after being flayed alive, were drawn over a field, and then hung upon a gibbet, with an usher of the chamber, who had been privy to their amours. The vexation of this shameful affair, together with some disappointments, threw the king into a consumption, of which he died, upon the 19th of November, 1314, in the forty-seventh year of his age, and the thirtieth of his reign, and was buried at St. Denis.

Lewis the Tenth, surnamed the Boisterous, or Quarrelsome, who was in the twenty-third, or twenty-fifth year of his age, when he succeeded his father, deferred his coronation till the year following, under pretence of making the same ceremony serve for himself and his new queen, whose name was Clemence, the daughter of Charles, King of Hungary; his first queen, Margaret, being strangled in her prison, by his order, for her crime of adultery. Charles of Valois, the king's uncle, engrossed the whole power during this reign, which was but of short duration; for the king having made but an unsuccessful campaign in Flanders, died suddenly at his return, on the 5th of June, 1316, by imprudently drinking a glass of water when he was very hot, according to some historians, though others think that he was poisoned.

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Opon the death of Lewis the Tenth, his brother Philip, Count of Poitou, surnamed the Long, was, at the same time, appointed regent of the kingdom of Navarre, during the minority of Jane, his niece, daughter and heiress of Lewis the late King, by Margaret of Burgundy, and of the kingdom of France, till Clemence of Hungary, whom the late king left with child, should be brought to bed; Jane of Navarre, in virtue of the Salic law, not being permitted to inherit the crown of France. About five months after the king's death, the queen dowager was delivered of a son, named John, who lived but eight days, and upon whose death, there arose great contests about the succession, which at length was settled upon Philip the Long, who was crowned at Rheims, together with his wife Jane, the 9th of January, 1317, in the twenty third year of his age, by the name of Philip the Fifth.

At the beginning of this reign, the kingdom was upon the brink of being involved in new troubles, which, however, were prevented by the firmness of the king, who, in the year 1320, concluded a peace with the Flemings, and determined upon an expedition to the Holy Land, from which however he was dissuaded, though with great difficulty, by the Pope, and died the 30th of January, 1322, in the twenty-eighth year of his age, and the sixth of his reign.

Charles

Charles the Fourth, surnamed the Fair, succeeded his brother, Philip the Long, at the age of twenty-six years, and assumed the title of King of Navarre, as Philip had done, in quality of guardians of their niece Jane, daughter of Lewis the Tenth.

In the year 1324, a war broke out between Charles the Fair and Edward the Second, King of England, which was strangely managed on both sides: and indeed this reign, which was also short, affords nothing remarkable, except some fruitless attempts of Pope John the twenty-second, to raise Charles the Fair to the imperial throne, which he would fain have wrested from Lewis of Bavaria. The king dying, on the 1st of February, 1328, without issue male, left his queen pregnant, which occasioned a new regency.

Upon the death of Charles the Fair, the regency was claimed by King Edward the Third of England, in right of his mother Isabella, daughter of Philip the Fair, against Philip of Valois, son of Charles of Valois, brother of Philip the Fair, to whom it was adjudged by the peers and barons of France, and whom they acknowledged king, upon the queen's being delivered of a daughter, named Blanche. Philip of Valois, surnamed the Fortunate, was crowned at Rheims, upon the 29th of May, 1328, by the name of Philip the sixth. Soon after his accession to the crown, he restored the kingdom of Navarre

to Jane, the daughter of Lewis the Tenth ; assisted Lewis, Count of Flanders, in reducing the Flemings, whom he beat at Cassel, and summoned King Edward the Third to do him homage for Guienne, which was performed on the 6th of June, 1329.

Now Philip and Edward both prepare for war, which broke out in 1336, and continued with little interruption upwards of a hundred years ; and of which the principal events have been mentioned already, in another part of this work *. The Flemings rebelling anew against their sovereign, declare in favour of Edward, notwithstanding the treaties concluded with France, upon condition of his assuming the title of King of France, in which case they alledged, that, by espousing his cause, they should conform to the letter of their treaties. This revolt was promoted by the Emperor Lewis of Bavaria, who was incensed against Philip, for marrying his eldest son, Prince John, Duke of Normandy, to Bonne, of Luxemburg, daughter of the King of Bohemia, who was at variance with that emperor. In the mean time, the king ravaged Flanders, and his son John took Thun l' Eveque, upon the Schelde, and laid waste the county of Hainault : but these advantages did not make amends for the defeat at sea, in the neighbourhood of Sluys, where the king's fleet, consisting of four hundred sail, with forty thousand men on board,

* See Vol. III. p. 89 & *seq.*

was destroyed by the English squadron. In 1346, Philip was totally defeated at the battle of Cressy, and the year following, Edward took Calais

In 1349, the county of Dauphiné was annexed to the crown, in consequence of three treaties, with the Dauphin, Humbert the Second, who, being inconsolable for the loss of his only son, resolved to quit the world, and take the order of St. Dominic, relinquishing his dominions in favour of Charles, the king's grandson, the first of the blood royal of France, who bore the title of Dauphin. About the same time, the King married Blanche, daughter of Philip, Count d'Evreux, and of Jane, Queen of Navarre, who became a widow, in less than a year. For the king died the 22d of August, 1350, in the fifty-seventh year of his age, and twenty-third of his reign, and was interred at St. Denis.

John succeeded to the throne, at the age of thirty years, and was crowned at Rheims, the 25th of September. He sullied the beginning of his reign with the death of the Constable Rodolph, Count of Eu and Guines, who was accused of holding a correspondence with the English, and beheaded, without observing the forms of justice; which act of violence greatly alienated the minds of the people, and was, in part, the cause of all his misfortunes. In 1352, Charles de la Cerda of Spain, created constable, after the execu-
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tion of the Count of Eu, was assassinated by Charles, surnamed the Bad, King of Navarre, because the county of Angouleme, which the King of Navarre expected in dower with his wife, the daughter of King John, was given to Charles de la Cerda.

In 1355, Charles the Dauphin, being made Duke of Normandy, invited the King of Navarre, with whom he entered into some connections, to be present at his reception; that prince, accepting the invitation, was arrested by King John, and closely confined; upon which, his brother Philip revolted, and, in conjunction with the relations of the other lords, who had been massacred in presence of the King of Navarre, at the time of arresting him, requested the aid of Edward the Third, who sent his son Edward, Prince of Wales, to their assistance. That prince having traversed and plundered the country, through which he marched, and defeated King John at the celebrated battle of Poitiers, took him prisoner, and brought him over to England.

In 1357, the King of Navarre having escaped from his confinement, formed a project of mounting the throne of France; with this view, he took up arms against the Dauphin, who governed the realm as the king's lieutenant-general, during the captivity of his father. In the mean time, there was an insurrection of the peasants, who, finding themselves in a starving condition, and oppressed by their

lords, were wrought up to such a height of fury, that they resolved to extirpate the whole nobility ; and the year following, the Parisians, with Stephen Marcel, provost of the merchants at their head, revolted against the Dauphin, who retired from Paris, where the King of Navarre committed all manner of violence, but is at length expelled that city. Marcel, afraid of being pushed by the Dauphin, whose army had invested Paris, attempted to betray the place to the English ; but as he was advancing to the gate of St. Anthony, upon the first of August, about midnight, John Maillard, a resolute citizen, dispatched the traitor with a hatchet : his death put a period to the rebellion, upon which the dauphin returned to Paris.

In the year 1359, the dauphin concluded a peace with the King of Navarre : but the treaty negotiated in England for the release of King John, had been so disadvantageous to France, as to raise the indignation of the whole kingdom ; and the states, having deliberated on the subject, refused to ratify it ; upon which King Edward, returning to France, after marching up to the walls of Paris, retired to the neighbourhood of Chartres, where a violent storm so terrified his army, that he considered it as the commands of Heaven upon him to conclude a peace ; upon which he sent plenipotentiaries to the village Bretigny, near Chartres, where they met the French ministers, upon the first of May, 1360, and
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concluded their conferences on the eighth; and in consequence of this treaty, King John was set at liberty, and returned to France.

In 1361, Philip, Duke of Burgundy, dying at the age of fourteen, John re-annexed his dukedom to the crown, by right of blood, as the next of kin; and, in 1363, gave it to Philip the Hardy, his fourth son, who reunited the county and peerage of Flanders to the branch of Burgundy, by his marriage with Margaret, heiress of the Counts of Flanders, and widow of Philip, the last Duke of Burgundy; and by the charter of his father was instituted first peer of France. After this, the king re-united the Dukedom of Normandy, and the counties of Champagne and Toulouse to the crown. In the mean time, James of Bourbon, Count de la March, was defeated and slain at the battle of Brignais, in endeavouring to disperse a banditti, called the Great Companies, who had ravaged France, and were marching into Italy; they consisted of disbanded soldiers, who assembled themselves in a body, under a commander of their own chusing. In 1364, King John returned to England, in order to treat of the ransom of his son, the Duke of Anjou, who made his escape from England, where he had been an hostage. Some historians attribute the king's return into England to an amour; but whatever the motive was, he died at the palace of the Savoy, in London, the eighth of April, 1364, in the fifty-sixth year of his age, and the four-

teenth year of his reign, and was buried at St. Denis.

Charles the Fifth, surnamed the Wise, was seven and twenty years of age, when he succeeded his father John, and was crowned at Rheims, with the queen his consort, on the 19th of May, 1364. The King of Navarre, having renewed his claim to the dutchy of Burgundy, together with the counties of Champagne and Brie, was defeated upon the sixth of May, by the French army, under the command of Bertrand du Guesclin; and Capital de Buch, the commander in chief of the Navarre army, was taken prisoner. The war being renewed in Britany, the young Count de Montfort defeated Charles de Blois in the battle of Auray, in which Charles fell.

In 1365, the Count de Montfort concluded a treaty with the widow of Charles de Blois, by which he was acknowledged Duke of Britany, and as such performed homage to the king. This was followed by another treaty, concluded in the same year, between Charles the Fifth and the King of Navarre, who was continued in the possession of the county of Evreux, had a grant of Montpellier and its dependencies, with a reserve of the sovereignty and jurisdiction, as an indemnity for his pretensions to Burgundy, Champagne and Brie.

About this time, the Grand Companies, who ravaged France, and reduced the king and his

his subjects to the utmost distress, were engaged by Bertrand du Guesclin, in an expedition into Spain, where he dethroned Peter the Cruel, King of Castile; and by means of this expedition, cleared France of those banditti. In 1368. the inhabitants of Guienne revolted against Edward Prince of Wales, who oppressed them with heavy taxes; and several lords of that country applying to the parliament of Paris for redress, Edward was cited to appear in this court, as a vassal to France; and upon his non-appearance, his possessions in France were confiscated, which occasioned a war between the Kings of France and England, in the course of which, the English were defeated at sea, by the Castilian fleet; and they were no less unfortunate at land; for, by the truce, concluded in 1374. between France and England, they found themselves deprived of all their acquisitions in France, except Calais; and John the Fifth, Duke of Britany, who had sided with the English, was declared a rebel, by an arret of parliament, and deprived of his dutchy, which was reunited to the crown, but soon afterwards recovered, upon the death of Charles the Fifth, which happened upon the sixteenth of September, 1380, in the forty-fourth year of his age, and the seventeenth year of his reign. His death is said to have been occasioned by poison, administered to him, while he was dauphin, by the King of Navarre; and a German physician is said to have suspended the effects of the poison, by opening an issue in his arm, and assured

assured him, that whenever it stopped, death would be the consequence; and it actually stopped some short time before he died.

Charles the Sixth succeeded his father, at the age of twelve years, and was crowned at Rheims upon the 4th of November, 1380, before which time, there had been some hot disputes concerning the regency among the king's uncles, the Dukes of Anjou, Berry, Burgundy, and Bourbon; and upon a hearing before the parliament, it was resolved, that the Duke of Anjou should be regent and president of the council; and that the Dukes of Burgundy and Bourbon should have the care of the king's education, and the superintendency of his household. The Duke of Anjou, who had exasperated the people by his extortions, having been adopted by Joan, queen of Naples, determined, upon her decease, to support his pretensions to that crown; for which purpose, he seized all the late king's treasures, to defray the expences of this expedition; and the Dukes of Berry and Burgundy plundered also. In this situation of affairs, the people in Languedoc and the inhabitants of Paris had recourse to arms, but are soon suppressed and punished.

The Duke of Anjou, having accumulated all the wealth he could, proceeded to Avignon, to the great joy of the nation, and from thence to Italy, with a fine army, to gain possession of the crown of Naples, where, without perform-

forming any thing, except wasting all his treasure, he died of chagrin.

Upon the departure of the Duke of Anjou, the Duke of Burgundy had almost the sole management of the king, whom he led with a powerful army to the assistance of his father-in-law, Lewis, Count of Flanders, whose subjects had taken arms against him, on account of the enormous taxes he levied on them: the first operations of the war were favourable to the Flemings, but, in a general action at Rosebecq, they were entirely defeated, with the loss of twenty-five thousand men, among whom was their leader. The Count of Flanders, who was restored by this action, dying in 1384, was succeeded by the Duke of Burgundy, in right of his wife, the duke's only daughter.

The king, upon a tour through his kingdom, in 1389, at Avignon, paid a visit to Pope Clement the Seventh, by whom Lewis, the young Duke of Anjou, was, about this time, crowned King of Naples; and upon an expedition into Britany, in 1392, Charles the sixth, who had before discovered some symptoms of madness, was seized with a sudden phrenzy, which lasted, with some lucid intervals, during the remaining part of his life. Upon this accident, the Dukes of Berry and Burgundy seized upon the government, and excluded the king's brother, the Duke of Orleans, under pretence of his youth.

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In 1404, Philip, Duke of Burgundy, dying, was succeeded by his son John, surnamed the Fearless, who seized the regency of the kingdom, as his father had done, excluded the Queen and the Duke of Orleans, and obliged them to quit Paris ; in 1407, the Duke of Orleans was assassinated, by order of the Duke of Burgundy, who for the present withdrew to Flanders, from whence he returned the year following, forced the diseased king to grant him a pardon, and afterwards seized the administration. Soon after this, the resentment between the two factions of the Dukes of Burgundy and Orleans ran higher, and was productive of greater mischiefs than ever. By the advice of the Duke of Burgundy, the king marched against the young Duke of Orleans, who had called in the English to his assistance, and brings him to terms : however, the disturbances are soon after revived, and the Parisians, inflamed by the Duke of Burgundy, kept Lewis the Dauphin, who was well affected to the Duke of Orleans, confined at Paris ; upon which the king joined the Duke of Orleans, and made war upon the Burgundians, in 1414.

The year following, Henry the Fifth of England, having made a descent in Normandy, took Harfleur, and marching towards Calais, defeated the French in the famous battle of Agincourt, which was followed by the death of Lewis the Dauphin, upon the eighteenth of December, 1415; and that by

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the death of John, the second Dauphin, upon the fifth of April, 1416. In the mean time, the Duke of Burgundy entered into an alliance with Henry the Fifth, who had now over-run all France; and Isabella, of Bavaria, the wife of Charles the Sixth, entered into a treaty with the Duke of Burgundy, the enemy of her husband, and of her son Charles, the third Dauphin, to revenge herself of them, for ordering one of her gallants to be drowned, and obliging her to refund the treasure of which she had plundered the state: with this design, she delivered up Tours and Paris to the enemy, and obliged the dauphin to retire to Poitiers, whither he removed the parliament, and assumed the title of regent.

In 1418, the Duke of Burgundy returned to Paris, where Lord Lisle Adam arrived a month before, and had committed all manner of outrages. About this time died the Duke of Berry, and Lewis the Second, King of Sicily, the dauphin's father-in-law, who enjoyed a great share in the administration; and about the same time, the Count of Armagnac was assassinated. The dauphin, alarmed at his mother's treaty with the King of England, resolved, if possible, to accommodate matters with the Duke of Burgundy, as the most effectual means to repel the English, or at least to procure somewhat milder terms. The Duke of Burgundy, listening to the dauphin's proposals, both princes agreed to an interview upon the bridge of Montereau, where the
Duke

Duke of Burgundy was murdered, upon the tenth of September 1419.

On the 17th of October, a treaty of union was signed by deputies from several great cities, to revenge his death; and on the second of December, a truce was agreed on between the Kings of France and England, under the mediation of Philip the Good, Duke of Burgundy, who succeeded John the Fearless, that all parties might act with the greater vigour against the dauphin, who was now regarded as the common enemy.

On the 21st of May, 1420, a treaty was signed at Troyes, by which it was stipulated, that Catharine of France should be espoused to Henry the Fifth; and upon the demise of Charles the Sixth, that the crown should devolve to the King of England, who, from that time, assumed the title of regent, and heir of the kingdom of France. In the mean time, the affairs of his hereditary dominions obliged Henry to return to England, whither he carried Catharine his Queen to be crowned; and, in his absence, things took a new turn in France: for the dauphin having received a supply of six or seven thousand Scots, under the command of John Stuart, Earl of Buchan, sent them to defend his frontier, on the side of Anjou, and appointed the Marshal de la Fayette, with a corps of French forces, to assist them: the Scots being quartered at Bauge, the Duke of Clarence, Henry the Fifth's

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brother marched to surprize them, but was received by the Earl of Buchan, so gallantly, that he killed him with his own hand, and his troops were defeated.

Soon after this action, Henry the Fifth landed at Calais, with twenty-eight thousand men, but died at Vincennes upon the thirty-first of August, 1422, and left the regency of France to his brother the Duke of Bedford, and that of England to his younger brother the Duke of Gloucester : the unfortunate Charles the Sixth soon followed him ; for being seized with a quartan ague, he died on the twenty-first of October, in the fifty-fourth year of his age, and the forty-third year of his reign.

Charles the Seventh, who was twenty years of age at the death of his father, continued the war against the Duke of Bedford, guardian of Henry the Sixth, and regent of France, and at length recovered almost his whole kingdom out of the hands of the English, as has been mentioned in another part of this work * ; the capital of the kingdom falling into his hands, on the 13th of April, 1436 ; and before the end of the year 1453, nothing of the vast acquisitions of the English remained in their possessions, except Calais and Guines.

* See Vol. III. p. 100 & seq.

Charles the Seventh died through want of sustenance, for fear of being poisoned, upon the twenty-second of July, 1461, in the fifty-eighth year of his age, and the thirty-ninth year of his reign, and was buried at St. Denis.

Lewis the Eleventh, succeeded his father Charles the Seventh, at thirty-nine years of age, and was crowned at Rheims, the 15th of August, 1461. In 1464, an alliance was formed by Charles, Duke of Berry, the king's only brother, with the Count of Charolais, son of the Duke of Burgundy, surnamed Charles the Bold, the Duke of Britany, the Duke of Bourbon, the Count de Dunois, and several other Lords, who were offended with Lewis the Eleventh, for depriving them of their places, at the beginning of his reign. John of Anjou, Duke of Calabria, son of Rene, King of Naples, joined the confederacy. The Count de Charolais made an attempt upon Paris, but without success; and, on the 16th of July, engaged the king at Monlhery, about eight leagues from Paris, and defeated him; but this war was soon terminated by the treaties of Conflans and St. Maur.

In 1470, the Duke of Guienne, without consulting the King, and in order the better to make head against him, urged Charles the Bold, Duke of Burgundy, who succeeded his father Philip the Good, in 1467, to give him
his

his only daughter in marriage, but was poisoned in 1472, not without suspicion that the king himself was concerned in it. In the mean time, the Duke of Burgundy had recourse to arms; but concluded a year's truce with the king, in 1471: however, upon the death of his friend, the Duke of Guienne, he entered Picardy, and laid waste the country with fire and sword: from thence he proceeded to Normandy, and, having ravaged that province, marched back to Flanders. The king being highly incensed at the repeated acts of infidelity of John the Fifth, Count of Armagnac, whom he had pardoned more than once, notwithstanding which he still continued his intrigues with the Dukes of Burgundy and Guienne, resolved to punish him: to that end, he laid siege to Leictoure, which was defended by the count, who was murdered after the capitulation; he left no issue; and his estate, which had been confiscated by an arrest of parliament, was given to his brother Charles.

Lewis the Eleventh, having quarrelled with John, King of Arragon, and espoused the cause of Rene, King of Naples, against him, laid siege to Perpignan, which was defended by the King of Arragon in person; but the siege was raised, and the two kings accommodated their differences. The Duke of Burgundy being instituted heir by Arnold, Duke of Guelders, in prejudice to his own son, took possession of that province, and

formed a scheme of erecting his dominions into one independent sovereignty, under the title of the kingdom of Burgundy, and of making himself master of all the country on the Rhine, as far as Basil. To this end, he entered into a league offensive and defensive, with Edward the Fourth of England, and the Duké of Britany against the king : he declared for Robert of Bavaria, archbishop of Cologne, and laid siege to Nuits, by which proceedings he raised the jealousy of the Emperor and the Princes of Germany.

In 1474, the king concluded a treaty with the Swiss, against the Duke of Burgundy, and the year following, made war upon that prince. In the mean time, a truce of seven years was agreed upon between Lewis the Eleventh, and Edward the Fourth ; the marriage of the dauphin with Elizabeth, the daughter of King Edward, was settled ; and Lewis engaged to pay annually, to the King of England, during the joint lives of the two kings, the sum of fifty thousand crowns ; and the Duke of Burgundy finding himself deserted by the King of England, signed a truce for nine years with the king in 1475. Immediately after this truce, the Duke made himself master of Nancy, and in 1476, took the town of Granfon from the Swiss, by whom he was, however, attacked and defeated : having, soon after this disaster, recruited his army, the duke laid siege to Morat, where he was beaten a second time by the Swiss, under the command of René
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the Second, Duke of Lorrain, who afterwards re took Nancy.

In 1477, Charles the Bold laid siege to Nancy, and persisting obstinately in the enterprise, notwithstanding the severity of the season, which had almost ruined his army, he was attacked, killed, and his army defeated, by the Duke of Lorrain, who marched to the relief of the place with a body of Swiss troops : he left an only daughter, the Princess Mary, who was heiress to his dominions, and was afterwards married to Maximilian, Archduke of Austria, the son of the Emperor Frederic the Third ; and this match proved the source of all those quarrels which cost France and the house of Austria so much blood.

Upon the 13th of February, 1478, a truce was concluded at London, between Lewis the Eleventh, and Edward the Fourth, for themselves, during their lives, and for their successors, during the space of an hundred years. Lewis promised, for himself and his successors, to pay fifty thousand crowns to the King of England, for the space of an hundred years, to commence from the death of the survivor. In 1479, a war broke out between Maximilian and Lewis the Eleventh, who, by the valour and good conduct of Chaumont of Amboise, possessed himself of Franche Comté : but Maximilian having engaged the French army at Guinegate, raised the siege of Terouene, while Caulon, the French vice-admiral, took

a Dutch fleet of eighty sail, and carried them into Normandy. In 1481, the king concluded a truce with Maximilian, and about the same time, Charles of Anjou, Count of Maine, to whom Rene of Anjou, his uncle, had given Provence, appointed Lewis the Eleventh, heir to that country, and to his pretensions upon Naples and Sicily : the year following the king settled the marriage of the dauphin, to Margaret, daughter of Mary, duchess of Burgundy, who died about this time, by a fall from her horse, as she was hunting ; and upon the 30th of August, 1483, died Lewis the Eleventh, in the sixtieth year of his age, and the twenty-first of his reign, and was buried at Notre Dame de Clery, where his tomb was opened and insulted by the Huguenots in 1562.

Charles the Eighth succeeded his father in the fourteenth year of his age, under the tutelage of Anne, Lady of Beaujeu, his own sister, agreeable to the will of the late king, their father. The government was confirmed to her by the States General, notwithstanding the opposition of the Duke of Orleans, who, as first prince of the blood, wanted to have the chief management of affairs ; and in 1485, concluded a treaty with Maximilian and the Duke of Britany : upon this, Anne of Beaujeu marched an army into Guienne, and the king seized upon the county of Comminge, to punish the count for giving bad advice to the Duke of Britany. In 1486, the king declared war

war against the Duke of Britany, and the year following, made himself master of several towns, and obtained considerable advantages over the Archduke on the side of Artois.

In 1488, was fought the battle of Aubin, in which the Duke of Orleans was taken prisoner, whom the king released the year following, without consulting his sister. About this time, died the Duke of Britany, who left no male heirs, and whose daughter Anne, Maximilian married by proxy; but this match was, notwithstanding, broke off; and in 1491, Anne of Britany was married to Charles the Eighth, who sent back Margaret, the daughter of Maximilian, to whom he had been contracted.

In 1493, Charles the Eighth, having conceived a scheme of conquering the kingdom of Naples, concluded a peace with Maximilian, relinquishing the advantages he had obtained in that war, and came to an agreement with the King of Arragon, to whom he made a considerable cession: this project was founded on the rights of the house of Anjou, which had been ceded to Lewis the Eleventh; the King set out upon his expedition to Naples in 1494, and all the princes of Italy took part in the quarrel, according as their several interests directed them. On the 17th of November the king was received at Florence, and on the 31st of December, he made his entry into Rome, as a conqueror, by torch light.
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About the same time, Andrew Paleologus, Despot of Romania, the only heir to the empire of Constantinople, after the decease of his uncle Constantine Paleologus, renounced all his rights to the eastern empire, in favour of Charles the Eighth and his successors.

In 1495, Charles the Eighth performed acts of sovereignty in Rome. Pope Alexander the Sixth capitulated with his Majesty ; and among other conditions, delivered up Zizim the brother of Bajazet, who might have been of service to the king in a war he intended against the Turks. Alfonso, King of Naples, finding his subjects intimidated at the approach of the French army, and knowing how odious he had rendered himself by his ill conduct, resigned the crown in favour of his son Ferdinand, a young prince of great courage, and beloved by the people : but the terror of the French name was such, that Ferdinand found himself obliged to retire, and Charles the Eighth, clad in Imperial robes, made a triumphant entry into Naples, on the 21st of February : all these conquests were made in less than six months.

In the mean time, a league was concluded at Venice, between the Pope, the Emperor Maximilian, his son the Arch-duke Philip, Ferdinand King of Arragon, Henry the Seventh of England, Lewis Sforza, and the Venetians, to drive Charles out of Italy. Upon intelligence of this powerful confede-

tacy, the king began to entertain thoughts of his returning to France, in which he met with great difficulty; for on the 6th of July, his army consisting only of nine thousand men, was attacked by the confederate army, commanded by the Marquis of Mantua, at Fornova, where Charles displayed the most signal proofs of valour, and defeated the confederates with the loss of three thousand men. This victory facilitated the king's return, and enabled him to march to the assistance of the Duke of Orleans, who was besieged in Novara by Lewis Sforza: but notwithstanding this victory, and another gained at Seminara, the kingdom of Naples was recovered, with the like rapidity by which it was conquered, and King Ferdinand restored to his throne. Charles did not long survive his return from this famous expedition, but died, without any surviving issue, on the 7th of April 1498, in the twenty-seventh year of his age, and fifteenth of his reign.

Lewis the Twelfth, surnamed the father of his people, grandson of Lewis Duke of Orleans and Valentina of Milan, and son of Charles Duke of Orleans and Mary of Cleves, succeeded to the crown, as the next heir in the male line, at the age of six and thirty years, and was crowned at Rheims, on the 27th of May 1498. He was first married to Joan, daughter of Lewis the Eleventh, and having procured that marriage to be annulled, he married Anne of Britany, his predecessor's widow,

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in 1499. On their Majesties making their public entry into Paris, he added to his other titles, those of the Sicilies and Jerusalem, together with the duchies of Milan and Brittany; he claimed the first as heir of the house of Anjou, the second as descending to him from his grandmother, and the third in virtue of his marriage. The face of affairs was much changed in Italy; the Pope was in his interest, and he conciliated the friendship of the republic of Venice. Lewis having therefore taken precautions for preserving peace at home, assembled his forces, and prepared for an expedition to Italy. The conquest of the Milanese was performed in three weeks by the king's army, consisting of twenty thousand men, commanded by Lewis of Luxemburg, Count of Ligny, Robert Stuart, Lord of Aubigny, and James Trivulce a Milanese Lord. Lewis the Twelfth and Ferdinand King of Spain, having agreed to share the kingdom of Naples between them, completed the conquest of it in less than four months, in 1501.

The Venetians, beginning to take umbrage at the conquests of Lewis the Twelfth, and the French and Spaniards quarrelling about the spoils of the kingdom of Naples, the French were compelled to evacuate that kingdom. In the year 1504, Lewis attacked Spain with three armies, which however returned without performing any thing worthy of notice. About this time, the emperor granted the investiture of the dukedom of Milan to

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Lewis the Twelfth, who renounced his pretensions to the kingdom of Naples to his niece Germain de Foix, as her marriage portion with Ferdinand King of Naples; and in 1505, he married his daughter the princess Claude to Francis Count of Angouleme. The Genoese revolting against Lewis the Twelfth, in 1506, that monarch passed the Alps, and defeated the Rebels. In 1508, a league was concluded at Cambray, against the Venetians, by Pope Julius the Second, the Emperor Maximilian, the King of France, Ferdinand King of Spain, the Cardinal of Amboise, and Margaret of Austria, governess of the Netherlands. This princess was daughter of Maximilian and Mary of Burgundy. She had been contracted to Charles the Eighth of France, who sent her back to her father. She was afterwards married to John, infant of Spain, who soon left her a widow, and at length she espoused Philibert the Second Duke of Savoy, who died in 1504. Lewis, having passed the Alps, to command his army in person, engaged the Venetians at Aignadel, and defeated them, upon the 14th of May 1509; and, in conjunction with the Pope, stripped them of all they had acquired in Italy for fifty years before: but the Pope, beginning to be jealous of the King of France, and that monarch finding his health upon the decline, repassed the Alps, upon which the Venetians recovered some of the places they had lost, and obliged the Emperor Maximilian to raise the siege of Padua.

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The Pope, immediately afterwards, having absolved the Venetians, declared war against France, made war on her allies in person, and had the honour of reducing Mirandola after a siege of three months; and, to shew how much he was pleased with his success in his new vocation of a general, made his entry through the breach. In the mean time, marshal Trivulce, who commanded the French army, pushed the Pope and his allies. Gaston de Foix, Duke of Nemours, the king's nephew by his sister Mary, took Bologna, routed the Venetians, and recovered Brescia in 1512, and in order to oblige the enemy to come to a battle, besieged Ravenna. This had the desired effect, the confederates marched to its relief, under the command of Cardinal John de Medicis: and the duke advancing to meet them, an engagement ensued, on Easter Sunday, the 11th of April, in which the confederate army was cut to pieces. The Duke de Nemours performed prodigies of valour, but being too eager in the pursuit of a body of Spaniards, who were retiring in good order, he was slain at the age of twenty-three years; and his death was attended with the loss of the Milanese, notwithstanding the vigorous efforts of La Palice, who had taken upon him the command of the army.

The emperor concluded a truce with the Venetians, and Lewis the Twelfth, seeing all Europe combined against him, and finding the Swiss on their march towards the Dutchy of Milan,

Milan, recalled his troops, and of all his possessions in Italy, retained no more than the castles of Milan, Novara, Cremona, and a few other places. In the mean time, the Genoese rebelled, and chose John Fregosa for their duke, and the Pope laid the kingdom of France under an interdict, and particularly the city of Lyons.

In 1513, the king entered into an alliance with the Venetians, and concluded a year's truce with Ferdinand King of Naples; his army, under the command of Trimouille, retook the Milanese a third time; and the Genoese submitted once more: but after the battle of Novara, which was fought on the 6th of June, and in which the Swiss defeated Trimouille, the French were again dispossessed of the Milanese, and Genoa once more rebelled.

About the same time, Maximilian, Henry the Eighth of England, and the Swiss cantons, entered into an offensive alliance against France: the English laid siege to Terouene, which surrendered after the battle of the Spurs, where the French were routed*. The Swiss laid siege to Dijon, which Trimouille preserved, by entering into a treaty with them; and the Venetians were defeated by the Spaniards. On the death of the queen in 1514, Lewis made a peace with England, and married Mary, the

* See Vol. III. page 137.

sister of Henry the Eighth ; and after having extricated himself from so many difficulties, and brought his affairs into so good order, whilst he meditated yet greater things, he found his infirmities increase, and his health decay. His constitution was much broken by the gout, against which his only preservative was a very regular manner of living. He thought himself obliged to depart from this, in complaisance to his young queen, and his affection, his too great affection, say the writers of those times, for the most sprightly and most beautiful young princess in Europe, hastened him to his grave. He died on the 1st of January 1515, in the fifty-fourth year of his age, and the seventeenth of his reign, and was interred at St. Denis.

Francis the First, surnamed the Patron of learning, was Count of Angouleme, and Duke of Valois, great grandson of Lewis Duke of Orleans and Valentina of Milan, succeeded Lewis the Twelfth, as next heir male, at the age of twenty-one years, and was crowned at Rheims the 25th of January 1515. Upon his accession to the throne, he married Claude, daughter of Lewis the Twelfth ; and having renewed the alliance between France and England, during the joint lives of the two kings, and concluded a treaty of perpetual peace and amity with the Archduke Charles, he marched at the head of an army into Italy, where he had no other ally but the Venetians, leaving his mother regent of the kingdom.

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His design, in this expedition, was to make a conquest of the Milanese, which was defended by the Swiss, whom he attacked and defeated at Morignano, upon the 13th and 14th of September successively; in consequence of which victory, he became master of the Milanese. The Genoese declared in favour of the king, and the Pope, intimidated by his successes, concluded a peace with that prince, and had an interview with him at Bologna, after which the King returned to France, leaving the constable of Bourbon governor general of the Milanese.

His majesty gained over some of the Swiss cantons, but Henry the Eighth of England, having prevailed upon the Emperor Maximilian, to march an army into Italy, that prince accordingly made an attempt upon the Milanese, in 1516, but without success. In 1518, the king renewed the alliance with England, and obtained the restitution of Tournay; the year following, upon the death of the Emperor Maximilian, he declared himself a candidate for the imperial dignity, which was carried away by Charles the Fifth of Spain; and in 1520, he had an interview with Henry the Eighth, at the camp of Cloth of gold, between Andres and Guines.

In 1521, the king made a conquest of the kingdom of Navarre, which he lost again soon after; and about this time, a war broke out between Francis and Charles the Fifth, with

no advantage on the side of Flanders, and the loss of Milan. These losses on the side of France was followed by other misfortunes, which produced inquiries, and these, instead of remedies, acts of injustice. Under these difficulties, Francis sent to Henry the Eighth, to demand the succours stipulated by treaty; in answer to which, Henry sent a herald to declare war, and in the month of July debarked a body of English troops at Calais, commanded by the Earl of Surry, which however returned without having done any thing worthy of notice. In the mean time, the constable of Bourbon left France, and entered into the service of the emperor, whose army, after penetrating into Champagne, was repulsed by the Duke of Guise.

In the year 1524, the French were entirely dispossessed of the Milanese: but the constable of Bourbon, who laid siege to Marseilles, was obliged to retreat; and while France is attacked on every side, the king sent a new army into Italy, and recovered the dutchy of Milan; but upon the 24th of February 1525, he was defeated at Pavia, and taken prisoner, after receiving several wounds, and sent to Spain; upon which the Duchess of Angouleme, the king's mother, was made regent. In the mean time, the king of England growing jealous of the emperor's successes, listens to the proposals of the regent of France; and as Italy was equally alarmed, the Pope, Sforza, and the Venetians, entered into a league, to wrest
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the crown of Naples from Charles the Fifth. Margaret dutchess of Alençon sister of the king of France, took a journey to Madrid, in order to facilitate the deliverance of her brother: but finding her endeavours ineffectual, she returned to France. At length, after a great many difficulties, a treaty was signed at Madrid upon the 14th of January 1526, and the king returned to France, after delivering up his two sons, as hostages for the execution of the treaty.

Soon after the king's return, the vice-roy of Naples waited upon him, in the name of Charles the Fifth, to demand the ratification of the treaty of Madrid. For answer, he was desired to be present at the remonstrance of the deputies of Burgundy, who declared to his majesty, that they would never consent to the article of the last treaty, containing the cession of their country: but what surprized the viceroy most of all, was the publication of a league, called the holy league, from the Pope's being at the head of it, concluded by Pope Clement the Seventh, the King of France, all the Princes of Italy, and the King of England, who was declared protector of the confederacy; the intent of which was to hinder the emperor from possessing himself of the duchy of Milan, and to stop his progress in Italy. The constable of Bourbon, having been promised the investiture of the Milanese, completed the conquest of that duchy; but being distressed for want of money, marched towards

Rome, in hopes of plundering that city, which he took by assault upon the 6th of May, 1527, and was slain at the age of eight and twenty years.

Upon the death of Bourbon, the command of the imperial army devolved on the Prince of Orange, who became possessed of the person of the Pope, at the taking of the city of Rome; and the Pontiff was forced to deliver up almost every place of consequence in his possession, agree to pay a ransom of four thousand crowns, and remain a prisoner till this treaty was executed. In the mean time, the Kings of France and England agree to send a powerful army into Italy, which arrived in the Milanese, under the command of Marshal Lautrec, about the beginning of August, when Genoa surrendered, and declared once more for the King of France, and the greatest part of the Milanese was conquered by Lautrec. The arms of the confederates prevailed in Italy, in consequence of which, the Pope recovered his liberty. In 1528, Lautrec marched to Naples, and laid siege to it: but an epidemic disease broke out in the French army, which greatly reduced it, and of which Marshal Lautrec himself died. The death of this general, together with the defection of Andrew Doria, one of the greatest captains of his time, obliged the French to raise the siege; after which the war went on but faintly on the part of France, and Genoa and Savona surrendered to the emperor.

In the mean time, Francis and Henry offered the emperor two millions of crowns for the ransom of the young princes, and in lieu of the articles of the treaty of Madrid, on condition that Charles should discharge fifty thousand crowns he owed to England: but the emperor rejected these proposals, upon which Francis and Charles sent each other a challenge. In 1579, a treaty of peace was set on foot at Cambray, which was negotiated by the Princess Margaret of Savoy, governess of the Low Countries, on behalf of the emperor, and madame, the French King's mother. By this treaty, Francis agreed to pay the emperor two millions of crowns, for the ransom of his children; he renounced all his right to the Milanese, and to the counties of Asti, Flanders, and Artois, and engaged to marry Eleonora, widow of the King of Portugal, the emperor's niece.

In 1532, the dukedom of Britany was annexed to the crown of France; and in 1534, Francis Sforza, who was restored to the duchy of Milan, by the treaty of Cambray, having caused M. Merveille, the French agent, to be put to death, Francis was determined to take satisfaction: but in order to reach the dominions of this prince, the king was under a necessity of demanding a passage for his troops through the territories of the Duke of Savoy, which was denied him. Upon this, he sent the Admiral Brion, with orders to reduce Piedmont, of which the admiral soon possessed him-

himself. In the mean time, Francis Sforza, Duke of Milan, died, as is supposed, through his terror of the French King's arms; and this prince's death revived the king's pretensions to the Milanese, which, by the treaty of Cambray, he resigned only in favour of Sforza; he therefore demanded the investiture of that duchy.

The Emperor Charles, rejecting the king's demands with disdain, marched with a formidable army into Piedmont, in 1536, and after recovering several places there, advanced into Provence, but was repulsed on every side; and, having laid siege to Marseilles, was obliged to retire, with the loss of the greatest part of his army; in consequence of which event, the king's troops recovered several places in Piedmont. During the emperor's irruption into Provence, the Flemings invaded Picardy, but met with the same fate, and were obliged to raise the siege of Peronne. About this time, Francis, the king's eldest son, was poisoned, not without suspicion of the emperor's having been concerned in it.

In 1537, the emperor was prevailed upon to accept of a truce for three months, and the year following, both parties agreed to a truce for ten years. In 1542, the war broke out a-new, between Francis and Charles, in consequence of the murder of the king's ministers to Venice and the Grand Signior, committed by order of the governor of Milan for the

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emperor ; and the year following, Henry the Eighth of England declared war upon the French King, for preventing a match between his son Edward, and Mary Queen of Scots, who was yet in her cradle. The English monarch therefore entered into a close alliance with Charles the Fifth, and Francis concluded a treaty with the Porte.

Now the war was prosecuted with the greatest vigour in the Duchy of Luxemburgh, in Brabant, Picardy, and Piedmont. The imperialists were defeated by the troops under the command of the Duke of Cleves, who was soon after obliged to make his peace with the emperor : the Duke of Orleans subdued the Duchy of Luxemburg ; and Du Bellay possessed himself of Landrecy.

In 1544, Francis, Count of Anguien, engaged the imperialists at Cerizolles, and gained a complete victory against a superior army, killing ten thousand men upon the spot, and taking three thousand prisoners, together with the enemy's artillery, ammunition, and baggage. The battle of Cerizolles was followed by the conquest of Montferrat, without any other advantage ; the king being obliged to weaken his army, in order to make a stand against the emperor and the King of England, the former having penetrated into Champagne, and the latter into Picardy ; the emperor gained great advantages : but in the mean time, the king and the emperor agreed upon

upon a treaty of peace, which was signed at Crepi, and published in Piedmont.

About the same time, Henry the Eighth made himself master of Boulogne, and in 1546, a peace was concluded between the Kings of France and England, by virtue of which, Boulogne was to be restored in eight years, upon the payment of three thousand crowns. This peace was soon followed by the death of both Kings. Henry died on the 29th of January, 1547; and Francis, upon the 31st of March following, in the fifty-third year of his age, and the thirty-third year of his reign: he was buried at St. Denis.

Henry the Second succeeded his father Francis, at the age of twenty-nine years, and was crowned at Rheims, the 25th of July, 1547. The year following, the King sent for Mary Queen of Scots to France, where she was married to Francis the Dauphin; and about the same time, Jane D'Albert, only daughter and heiress of Henry, King of Navarre, and of Margaret, sister to Francis the First, was espoused to Anthony Bourbon, whom she made King of Navarre. In 1549, Henry renewed the alliance with the Swiss cantons, all except Zurich and Berne, which refused to sign it, on account of the great severities exercised by the king against the Protestants, throughout his dominions. About this time, the king laid siege to Boulogne, but fails in his attempt upon that city, which however

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was yielded up to him in 1550, when a peace was concluded with England.

In 1551, the king and the emperor had begun hostilities in Italy, without a declaration of war, on account of the duchies of Parma and Placentia. The king, having reduced Toul, Verdun, and Metz, annexed them to the crown of France in 1552. He marched to join the protestant Princes, Maurice, Elector of Saxony, and Albert, Marquis of Brandenburg, who had quitted their connections with the emperor, and entered with Henry in a league for supporting the liberty of Germany: but he was obliged to return, in order to stop the incursions of the enemy on the frontiers of Picardy, under the direction of Mary of Austria, sister of Charles the Fifth, and governess of the Netherlands: another motive to his return, was, his having received intelligence of a pacification at Passau, by which the Lutherians were made easy in regard to their religion. Charles the Fifth having sat down before Metz, which was gallantly defended by Francis Duke of Guise, was obliged to raise the siege: but to wipe off this disgrace, he took Hesdin and Therouenê, the last of which places he razed to the ground. Emanuel Philibert of Savoy, Prince of Piedmont, served this campaign under the emperor, to whom he was strongly attached; he was a very experienced general, and still had some hopes of recovering his dominions, which were forcibly withheld by Henry the Second. The French, how-

however, for want of supplies, made no great progress in Piedmont.

The emperor, having put himself at the head of his army, the king, who was very desirous of bringing him to a battle, wasted Brabant, Hainault and Cambresis, and having passed through the country of Artois, invested the castle of Renty; upon which Charles marched to its relief: and both armies coming to an engagement, upon the 13th of August, the imperialists were defeated: the king distinguished himself in this memorable action, at the head of the Swiss, and sought an opportunity of encountering Charles in person, which the emperor avoided. In the mean time, Strozzi, the general of the French troops in Italy, was defeated at the battle of Marcian in Tuscany, by the Marquis of Marignan, who after the action laid siege to Sienna, which place held out ten months.

In the Netherlands, the war was carried on but faintly; both parties being exhausted. In Piedmont, the Marshal of Brissac was attended with some considerable success. In the mean time, the Emperor Charles the Fifth resigned the crown of Spain, in favour of his son Philip, to whom he had already given the kingdoms of Naples and Sicily, on his marriage with Mary Queen of England: soon after this, he granted him the investiture of the duchy of Milan, and put him in possession of the Netherlands and Burgundy. In 1556,
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a truce for five years was concluded between the king, and the emperor, who resigned the imperial dignity in favour of his brother Ferdinand, King of the Romans, and retired to a monastery in the province of Estramadura, whither he was followed by his sister Mary, Queen dowager of Hungary, and governors of the Netherlands, and by another sister Eleonora, widow of Francis the First of France.

Philip the Second of Spain, in 1557, brought over the princess of Farnese to his interest by restoring Placentia, and the Duke of Tuscany, by putting him in possession of Sienna. In the mean time, the Duke of Guise, having entered Italy, was but ill supported by the Pope, who was reduced to make a peace on the King of Spain's terms. About the same time, Mary Queen of England declared war upon France, and Emanuel Duke of Savoy laid siege to St. Quintin, which place was gallantly defended by the Admiral of Coligny: the constable of Montmorency, with an army greatly inferior to the enemy, attempting to throw succours into St. Quintin, was attacked, routed and taken prisoner, together with the marshal of St. Andre, and several other officers of distinction, in consequence of which event, St. Quintin surrendered, and the Admiral was made prisoner. This battle having spread the greatest consternation throughout France, the Duke of Guise was recalled with his army from Italy, where the marshal Brissac main-

tained his ground, with the few remaining troops.

In 1558, the Duke of Guise being made lieutenant general of the kingdom, revived the spirits of the people ; by taking the important town of Calais, which had been in the hands of the English ever since the year 1347, when it was wrested from Philip of Valois by Edward the Third ; and now the English were entirely driven out of France. The Duke of Guise made himself master of Guines and Thionville, where Strozzi was slain : while the Duke of Nevers was employed in reducing Charlemont, M. de Termes, who succeeded Strozzi as marshal of France, made himself master of Dunkirk and St. Vinox, but was defeated, at Graveline, by Count Egmont, who commanded the Spanish troops at the battle of Quintin. In the mean time, the belligerent powers began to talk of peace, which was concluded at Chateau Cambresis, and by which the French were left in possession of Calais ; part of the dominions of the Duke of Savoy was restored to that prince, till the rights of the Duchess of Angoulême were settled, and all the other conquests on both sides, whether in Italy or in France, were given back, except the three important towns of Metz, Toul, and Verdun, which remained in the hands of the French ; and in consequence of this treaty, was concluded the marriage of Elizabeth the king's daughter to Philip of Spain,

Spain, and that of his sister Margaret, to the Duke of Savoy. The first of these marriages being over, the king would hold a tournament, in which himself, with the Duke of Guise, the Duke of Nemours, and the Prince of Ferrara were defendants; the first day he acquitted himself with great applause, as he did on the second, which was the 30th of June: but in the evening, he would break a lance with the Count of Montgomery, captain of his guard; and in this encounter, Montgomery broke his lance in shivers up to his hand, one of the splinters of which flew with great violence into his right eye, of which wound he died on the 10th of June 1559, in the forty-second year of his age, and the thirteenth year of his reign, and was interred at St. Denis.

Francis the Second succeeded his father Henry, in the sixteenth year of his age, and was crowned at Rheims the 10th of September 1559. This short reign was big with all those mischiefs which afterwards ravaged France. The Guises, abusing the authority with which they had been entrusted by the king, were able to support themselves against the princes of the blood, who claimed a right to the administration, on account of the minority of the sovereign. Against the Guises the King of Navarre and the Prince of Condé had interest enough to form a party, and the grantees were so ambitious as to foment those divisions with a view of profiting by the public calamities. Religion was too specious a pre-

tence not to be made use of by both parties. The Guises, pretending a zeal for the antient worship, to which the body of the nation still adhered, found means to maintain their authority among the populace, while the princes of the blood endeavoured by the love of novelty, to supply the want of power, which was in the hands of the Guises.

Francis duke of Guise and the cardinal of Lorraine the queen's uncles, were placed at the head of the administration. Those who had embraced the reformed religion, and were very numerous, finding that it was impossible for them to profess their belief, without being exposed to imprisonment, torture and death, resolved to surprize the court at Blois, to secure the persons of the king and of the Guises, and oblige the king to declare the Prince of Condé lieutenant-general of the realm. They fixed upon the 15th of March for this enterprize, for the execution of which their forces were to defile with all possible secrecy in small numbers, under chiefs already appointed, from every quarter: but the court receiving intelligence of this conspiracy, care was taken for the security of the king, and the administration, in order to which the Duke of Guise was confirmed in his office of lieutenant-general of the kingdom, and the court removed from Blois to the castle of Amboise, of which those embarked in this hazardous undertaking were apprized: but finding themselves so far advanced, they resolved to proceed, more especially

ally as the Prince of Condé was actually with the king, and several others of whose good intentions they were assured: but the Duke of Guise had taken such precautions, and made such dispositions, that the conspiracy was defeated, and the greatest part of the conspirators seized and put to death; the Prince of Condé was arrested, and condemned to lose his head: and guards set upon the King of Navarre: but they were soon afterwards delivered by the sudden and unexpected death of the king, which happened upon the 5th of December 1560.

Charles the Ninth, Duke of Orleans, succeeded his brother Francis at the age of ten years, and was crowned the 15th of May 1560. The queen-mother had the chief authority, and the power of regent, without assuming the title. The King of Navarre had the title of the king's lieutenant general, and the Prince of Condé was removed to La Fere, under a guard, till he should be declared innocent. The assembly of the states, having met in December, some good laws in respect to the administration of justice were enacted, a suspension of all religious persecutions, and a general amnesty for what had passed. The constable, the Duke of Guise, and the Marshal de St. André, entered into a close alliance, and were stiled the triumvirate; and in March, the Prince of Condé was declared innocent, both by the council and the parliament. In 1561, upon a petition presented to the parliament in favour of the Huguenots, all assemblies of

the protestants were forbidden upon pain of death, and all preaching, or celebration of the sacraments, contrary to the usage of the church of Rome. In August, Mary Queen of Scots returned to Scotland, and in a short time after, the King of Navarre left the reformed and joined himself to the triumvirate.

In 1562, an edict passed for the public exercise of the protestant religion : this edict however rather increased than abated the troubles; both parties making preparations for war. The Prince of Condé had treated with the Duke of Wirtemberg for succours, in support of the protestant cause; and the Duke of Guise having an interview with that prince, drew him into a treaty of neutrality. In his return to Paris, passing through the little town of Vassy in Champagne, his followers insulted the Huguenots, who were at their devotions in a barn; and proceeding by degrees from words to blows, there were about sixty of the Huguenots killed in the fray; and the duke, who is said to have used all his endeavours to put a stop to it, was himself wounded in the face with a stone, and this gave a beginning to the civil war.

In the mean time, the Prince of Condé, being declared head of the protestant, surprized Orleans, Rouen, and several other towns, and the King of Navarre being wounded in the trenches before this last mentioned city.

on the 19th of October, died in November following. On the other hand, the Marshal de St. André marched into Poitou with an army, and recovered Poitiers, and the Prince of Condé directing his march into Normandy, the two armies engaged near Dreux, when the Huguenots were defeated, and the generals of both armies, the Prince of Condé and the constable taken prisoners, and the Marshal de St. André killed. The Duke of Guise, who obtained this victory, laid siege to Orleans, where he was assassinated by one Poltrot de Mere, who was carried to Paris and drawn to pieces by wild horses. At length, terms of pacification were agreed upon, by which the protestants had a general pardon and liberty of conscience: and this accommodation became the more necessary, as the English were then in possession of Havre de Grace, which had been delivered up to them by the Huguenots, who had entered into a treaty with Queen Elizabeth, and put this place into her hands by way of deposit, in consideration of a succour in men and money.

The recovery of Havre de Grace, being the great point aimed at, war was declared against England, in 1563, and the Prince of Condé whom the queen had gained by promising to make him lieutenant-general of the kingdom, distinguished himself in the siege of the place, which surrendered on the 28th of July, when the king was present, who was
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declared of age at thirteen years and an half, by the parliament of Rouen, notwithstanding the opposition given by that of Paris, which was at length forced to comply.

In the mean time, the queen continued at the head of affairs, and published an edict in the king's name, restraining the protestants from the exercise of their religion, within ten leagues of the court. She renewed the alliance between the crown of France and the Swiss cantons, and concluded a peace with England in 1564. In the mean time, the king made a tour through part of his dominions; and at the castle of Roussillon in Dauphiné, published an edict, which fixed the beginning of the year to the first day of January, instead of Easter: and he published another edict at the same place, revoking some of the advantages which were granted to the Hugonots by the treaty of pacification.

In 1565, the king and the queen his mother had an interview with Isabella of France, consort of King Philip of Spain, and with the Duke of Alva, at Bayonne. The queen, affecting to take umbrage at the Duke of Alva's march towards the Netherlands, ordered a body of troops to be raised, with a view, as she pretended, of watching the motions of that general. The protestants of France and of the Low Countries, being alarmed at these military preparations, their jealousy gave rise to the second civil war in France. Queen
Catharine

Catharine gave occasion to the first civil wars by favouring the protestants, and to the second, by provoking them.

The protestants, at the head of whom was the Prince of Condé and the admiral, formed a design to surprize the court at Monceaux, of which the queen having timely notice, retired to Meaux, from whence the king and court were conducted to Paris by six thousand Swiss. The Prince of Condé, far from being disconcerted by this disappointment, surprized the town of St. Denis, and with scarce three thousand men, kept Paris blocked up for near six weeks. At length, on the 10th of November 1567, the constable, at the head of an army of twenty thousand men, marched out to attack the protestants, who though they had the greatest loss, had all the honour of the day: the constable being mortally wounded.

On the 16th of November, the Prince of Condé and the admiral, with the remains of their forces, marched into Lorrain, to meet succours that were coming to them from Germany; the queen caused her son, the Duke of Anjou, to be declared the king's lieutenant-general, to avoid naming a constable, and sent him with all the forces that could be assembled to harraßs the prince's rear. In the mean time, the flame of war spread itself through all the provinces; the reformed standing every where upon their defence, and making themselves masters of all the places they were

were able; while the papists, having the royal authority on their side, had recourse both to arms and to justice.

The Prince of Condé, having joined his German succours, consisting of four thousand foot, and six thousand horse, commanded by Prince Casimir, son of the elector Palatine, traversed a great part of the kingdom, and at length besieged Chartres. While the Prince was employed in this siege, the negotiations were renewed, and when the place was upon the point of surrendering, the peace was concluded by the prince against the advice of the admiral; and the edict of pacification was renewed, free from all the restrictions of that of Roussillon in 1568.

This peace lasted no longer than six months: for the queen having concerted a design of seizing the Prince of Condé and the admiral, who were retired to their estates, and had intelligence of the scheme formed against them, they retired to Rochelle, which place had shut its gates against the king's garrison, and was now become the bulwark of the reformed.

The Prince of Condé was no sooner at Rochelle, than the whole force of the protestants resorted thither, the Queen of Navarre particularly, with her son the Prince of Bearn, with all the forces of Guienne: those beyond the Loire were assembled in spite of the king's troops,

troops, and Queen Elizabeth sent him money, ammunition, and a train of artillery, by which he was enabled to march with his army to Soissons; and thus the third civil war broke out.

On the 13th of March 1562, the Duke of Anjou engaged the protestants at the village of Jarnac in the province of Angouleme, and defeated them with the loss of the Prince of Condé, who being taken prisoner, was killed in cold blood, by the baron Montesquieu, as is supposed, by order of the Duke of Anjou. The admiral made an excellent retreat, and, having put good garrisons into the places that were most exposed, retired to Poitou. Jane Queen of Navarre brought her son Henry Prince of Bearn, and Henry Prince of Condé, to the army, where they were acknowledged for general, and a new oath taken to support them, till the affairs of the kingdom should be settled by a solid peace.

On the 25th of June, happened a considerable skirmish in the neighbourhood of Rochela belle, in the Limousin, between the admiral and the Duke of Anjou, in which the former, who was seconded by William Prince of Orange, had the advantage; but on the 3d of October, the admiral was defeated at Montcontour, which defeat brought the affairs of the protestants to the last gasp. The admiral, however, under the command of the Prince of Bearn,

Bearn, who was about sixteen years of age and his cousin the Prince of Condé, who was a year older, undertook to conduct the army across the kingdom, in order to join some German succours, and succeeded, by defeating, at Arnay le Duc, the Marshal de Cossé, who attempted to obstruct his march. Being arrived in the neighbourhood of Paris, the admiral made some equivocal motions, that looked as if he intended to block up Paris, which so alarmed the queen, that she signed a peace at St. Germain's, on the 8th of August 1570, upon the terms proposed by the protestants; soon after which, the king was married to the Princess Elizabeth of Austria.

The advantages granted to the protestants by the peace of St. Germain's created a suspicion in most of their leaders, which the court of France attempted to remove, by a proposal of marriage between the Princess Margaret the king's sister, and the Prince of Bearn, making a feint at the same time, as if they were preparing for war against Spain. In the mean time, the Queen of Navarre, by the intended marriage of her son, was prevailed upon to come to court, and died soon after, not without some suspicions of her having been poisoned: this however did not prevent the marriage of her son, which was celebrated, on the 17th of August 1572, against the princess's consent. On the 22d of the same month, the admiral, who was also prevailed on to come to court
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under pretence of being consulted in the great preparations making for war, in which it was given out he was to be employed, was wounded by a musket shot, and attributed this assassination to the Duke of Guise. In the evening of the same day, the queen-mother held a cabinet council, in which it was resolved to massacre the protestants in general; and it was with some difficulty that the Duke de Nevers and the Marshal de Tavannes, who assisted at this hellish council, got the King of Navarre and the Prince of Condé excepted, together with the Marshals Montmorenci and Damville, who were at first doomed to slaughter with the rest: the direction of the whole design, when the time of execution arrived, was confided to the Duke of Guise: the guards were appointed to be in arms, and the city officers were to dispose the militia, to execute the king's orders, of which the signal was the ringing of a bell, near the Louvre at midnight. The admiral Coligny was assassinated by one Besme, and fell the first victim of that fatal day; the body was abandoned to the fury of the populace, who after a series of cruel and insolent affronts, dragged it to the common gallows, to which it was chained by the feet; the head being cut off and carried to the queen-mother, who it is said caused it to be embalmed and sent to Rome. In the very Louvre, the gentlemen belonging to the King of Navarre and the Prince of Condé were murdered under the king's eye; and within the space of three or four days, several thousands were destroyed,

by all the variety of cruel deaths that the most unbounded malice could invent.

The two first days the king denied it was done by his orders, and threw the whole blame upon the house of Guise; but on the 28th of August, he went to the parliament, avowed it, was complimented upon it, and directed a process against the admiral and his accomplices: the admiral was hanged in effigy; and two gentlemen were executed as accomplices, in a conspiracy against the life of the king, the princes his brothers, the queen-mother and the King of Navarre, in order to set the crown on the head of the young Prince of Condé, which conspiracy never existed: but by the owning of which they might save their lives, a proposition they rejected with contempt.

On the eve of St. Bartholomew's day, orders had been sent to the governors of provinces to fall themselves, and let loose the people, upon the protestants, of whom thirty thousand were butchered in the space of two months, though some governors had too much probity and courage, to obey such execrable orders. The King of Navarre, and the Prince of Condé made their recantation to save their lives. In the mean time the people of Rochelle began to prepare for their own defence, and the Duke of Anjou laid siege to the place, during which, news arrived that he was elected King of Poland: upon this news;

a general attack was made upon the town, and that failing, the duke, who had already lost 24000 men, resolved to make an end of the affair by a treaty of peace, in which the efforts of pacification were renewed; and the inhabitants of Rochelle surrendered, and promised to be good subjects, after which, the Duke of Anjou set out for his new kingdom, in 1573.

In 1574, a new faction appeared, known by the name of the Politicians, headed by the Duke of Alençon and the Montmorencies, and strengthened by the accession of the protestants. The queen-mother, being informed of this confederacy, ordered the Duke of Alençon and the King of Navarre to be arrested; but the Prince of Condé made his escape into Germany. The Marshals of Montmorency and de Cosié were sent to the Bastile on the same account, and two gentlemen, favourites of the Duke of Alençon, were executed. The court raised three armies, which obtained considerable advantages against the Huguenots. In the mean time, Charles the Ninth died, in the castle of Vincennes, the 30th of May, 1574, in the twenty-fourth year of his age, and the fourteenth year of his reign. His heart was carried to the Cistercian monks at Paris, and his body interred at St. Denis.

Henry the Third, who was already king of Poland, where he received the news of his

brother's death at Cracow, was in the twenty-third year of his age, when he ascended the throne; he made his escape from Poland, and returned into France through Germany and Italy, where he had great honours paid him at Vienna and Venice. At Turin, he was exceedingly caressed by the Duke and Duchess of Savoy; but he paid a little too dear for this entertainment, since he was persuaded to part with Pignerol, and two or three other places, which he held in Piedmont. About the latter end of August, he set out for Lyons, accompanied, as he had been from Venice, by the Duke of Savoy, and escorted by a small army composed of his troops; and yet, in spite of this precaution, the protestants, who were still in arms, and headed by the Prince of Condé and the Marshal d'Anville, carried off a part of his baggage, which alarmed and incensed him exceedingly.

The king, having positively determined to continue the war against the Huguenots, narrowly escaped a conspiracy against his life, upon the road to Rheims, in order to his coronation, which ceremony was performed upon the 13th of February, 1575. The war against the protestants went on with indifferent success. In the mean time, Marshal Damville assembled the states of Languedoc, and informed the world, that he had put himself at the head of a confederacy for restoring vigour to the laws, tranquility to the state, and driving foreigners out of the kingdom.

About the same time, the Duke of Alençon, the king's brother, who was concerned in the late conspiracy against his life, and pardoned, put himself at the head of the rebels, and was supported by Queen Elizabeth. A body of Germans, entering the kingdom about this time, were attacked and defeated by the Duke of Guise, who was wounded in the engagement. The queen mother, notwithstanding this success, was very desirous of bringing about a peace, but the protestants were so suspicious of her, and even of the Duke of Alençon, that all she could obtain was a truce for six months, and even this upon hard terms.

In 1576, the King of Navarre, whom Henry the Third, at his return to France, had set at liberty, escaped from court, and joining the Huguenots, made profession once more of the protestant religion. In the mean time, the Huguenots, who despised the Duke of Alençon, listened to the queen-mother's proposals for a peace, which was concluded about the middle of May, and the terms of which were digested into the famous edict of pacification, consisting of sixty-three articles: by these, liberty of conscience, and the public exercise of their religion, were granted to the reformed, without any other restriction, than that they should not preach within two leagues of Paris, or any other place where the court was. Party chambers were erected in every parliament, to consist of equal numbers of catholics and protestants, before whom all suits were to be

tried ; the judgments against the admiral, and in general, all who had fallen by the sword of war or of justice, were reversed ; eight cautionary towns given to the protestants.

About the same time, the dukedoms of Anjou, Maine, Touraine, and Berry, were added to the appanage of the Duke of Alençon ; and Henry the Third erected religious confraternities, and exposed himself in ridiculous processions. The edict of pacification so exasperated the catholics, that associations were formed in different parts of the kingdom, called the Holy League, and the Huguenots insulted in several towns. In the beginning of November, the states met at Blois, and, having cancelled the edict of pacification, sent their deputies to the King of Navarre, the Prince of Condé, and Marshal Damville, to invite them to the assembly, but without effect. The year 1577 opened with the states absolute declaration against any toleration or indulgence to the protestants, and the king avowed himself the head of the Holy League, sent it into the provinces, with his recommendation, to be subscribed, and renewed the war ; but being afraid, lest the protestants should invite foreign troops into the kingdom, concluded a new peace with them, which was signed at Poitiers.

As miserable as France was at this time, the Low Countries were still more so, having no less than four or five princes who aspired to the

the government, each at the head of an army; and to increase those miseries, the catholics called in the Duke of Anjou, who quitted the title of Duke of Alençon, and who, as it might be expected from his turbulent temper, accepted their invitation, and thereby augmented that confusion he came to suppress. However, in the year 1580, upon his return from the Netherlands, he concluded a peace between Henry the Third and the Huguenots, in expectation that the king his brother would not only forward a match between him and Queen Elizabeth, whom he had courted for some time, but also promote his design of getting himself acknowledged sovereign of the Netherlands, where the King of Spain had lost his authority.

Notwithstanding the treaty, the war continues to be carried on in Guienne, where the King of Navarre made himself master of the town of Cahors. The States of Holland, in 1581, having declared that Philip the second, King of Spain, had forfeited the sovereignty of the Netherlands, conferred the same on the Duke of Anjou, with the advice of William, Prince of Orange; and Queen Elizabeth and the duke entered into a treaty for the defence of England and the Low Countries. In 1583, the duke, turning jealous of the Prince of Orange, who had usurped the whole authority, attempted to seize some of the principal towns in Flanders; and among others, that of Antwerp, when the burgers, animated by the
Prince

Prince of Orange, disarmed the French, and the duke, covered with the shame of his treachery and incapacity, returned to France, where he died the year following.

The death of the Duke of Anjou, having rendered the King of Navarre next heir to the crown, served for a pretence to the Duke of Guise, to alarm the leaguers with the apprehensions of a successor to the crown separated from the communion of the Church of Rome. Upon this, Henry the Third sent a deputation to the King of Navarre, in order to prevail upon him to change his religion, that they might be able to act jointly in defence of the state. The queen mother, on the other hand, afraid of seeing her authority diminished by the succession of the King of Navarre, favoured the pretensions of the house of Lorraine, with a design of placing the crown upon the issue of her daughter, who was married to the Duke of that name; but the Duke of Guise, more attentive to his own interest, than to that of the elder branch of his family, persuaded the old Cardinal of Bourbon, uncle to the King of Navarre, that he was presumptive heir to the crown, expecting, under the sanction of that name, to find an opportunity of doing something for himself.

In 1585, the Guises having carried the Cardinal of Bourbon to Peronne, for safety, published a manifesto in his name, in which he assumed the title of first prince of the blood,
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and exhorted all Frenchmen to maintain the crown in the catholic branch. This declaration, backed by most of the princes in Europe, with the pope at their head, was relative to a treaty concluded with the King of Spain, whose policy, cloaked with the pretext of supporting the league, brought the kingdom to the brink of destruction. The Dukes of Lorraine and Guise were stiled lieutenants-general of the confederacy; and the king, instead of repelling this insult by force of arms, contented himself with publishing his apology. In the mean time, the leaguers began the war, and made themselves masters of several towns; but a treaty of peace was concluded at Nemours, upon the 7th of July, by which the king deprived the protestants of their privileges, and granted new advantages to the league, subversive of his own authority.

The pope, though he did not approve of this confederacy, which he looked upon as an insult to all sovereigns, yet foreseeing that it would lay Henry the Third under a necessity of joining the King of Navarre, published a bull, in which he excommunicated the King of Navarre, together with the Prince of Condé, and declared them unworthy of succeeding to the crown. The King of Navarre appealed from this bull to the parliament, and to a general council, and caused his appeal to be posted up at the gates of the Vatican, by which bold step, the pope conceived a favourable opinion of this prince. In the mean time, a
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kind of association was set on foot at Paris, consisting of several persons, who being distributed in the sixteen wards of this city, were thence called the council of sixteen, and had engrossed all the management of affairs; being entirely devoted to the Duke of Guise, and sworn enemies to royalty.

The peace of Nemours, which suspended the hostility of the leaguers, determined the protestants to have recourse to arms, in 1586, and now a war commenced, known by the name of the war of the three Henries; those were Henry the Third, at the head of the royalists, Henry King of Navarre, at the head of the protestants, and Henry Duke of Guise, chief of the league. In the prosecution of this war there happened no event of any consequence, yet the kingdom was rent to pieces by intestine divisions. In 1587, the King of Navarre marched into Burgundy to join a body of Germans, which was approaching to his assistance; but Anne Duke of Joyeuse, in order to prevent this junction, resolved to give him battle, in consequence of which resolution the two armies engaged at Coutras in Guienne, on the 20th of October, when the King of Navarre obtained a complete victory, and the Duke of Joyeuse lost his life, being killed in cold blood.

In 1588, Henry the First, Prince of Condé, was poisoned, at the age of thirty-five years, and left his wife pregnant, who was delivered
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of a prince named Henry. The King, in the mean time, highly provoked at the council of sixteen, happened to drop some menacing expressions, by which they were intimidated, and upon which they urged the Duke of Guise to return to Paris, who had been forbid by his majesty to set a foot in that city. The duke, notwithstanding, returned to Paris, and upon the 10th of May, waited on the king, who was determined to have had him stabbed in his presence, from which resolution he was however dissuaded by his mother. The same day, the king ordered all strangers to depart Paris, and finding he was not obeyed, commanded six thousand of his guards to enter the city next morning; but not having orders to fire, the scholars of the university, and the populace, quickly barricadoed the streets, and by taking themselves to arms, obliged a great part of the guards to submit, and in a manner blocked up the king in the Louvre. The duke, to shew his great power, soon restored the tranquillity of Paris, from which place, the queen mother pressed him to withdraw; and he not only refused to leave that city; but, to maintain his authority, changed all the magistrates, whom he suspected, seized the bastille, and disposed of every thing at pleasure.

The king, in the mean time, escaped from Paris, though not without great difficulty and danger, and retired to Chartres, where the queen mother followed him, attended by deputies from Paris, who were to ask pardon for
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what had passed in that city, and also by a deputation from the parliament, who did their duty in this respect with so much dignity and spirit, that it made a very strong impresson on the Parisians, which the Duke of Guise perceiving, resolved to finish a treaty of peace, proposed to him by the queen mother. The king was gone to Rouen, where the accommodation was quickly concluded. This was a most scandalous treaty, the chief design of which was to hinder the crown from devolving to a protestant: and it is thought, that the king was determined to this peace, from an apprehension of the Spanish Armada, then at sea *, which equally alarmed the kingdoms of France and England. The Duke of Savoy taking advantage of these troubles, and holding a correspondence with the Duke of Guise, seized the marquisate of Saluzzo.

The insolent demands of the deputies of the states, which were assembled at Blois, and the audacious conduct of the Duke of Guise, at length determined the king to get rid of this prince, who was become too powerful to be arraigned before a court of judicature. Having therefore removed some of his principal ministers, and lost all confidence in the queen mother, he concerted with a few faithful friends, the means of carrying into execution a design of assassinating the Duke of Guise, which was done upon the 23d of De-

* See Vol. III. p. 160.

ember, and his brother the Cardinal of Guise was assassinated the day following. The Cardinal of Bourbon was arrested, and the king's officers had like to have seized the Duke of Mayenne at Lyons. In the midst of these disturbances, died at Blois, Catharine de Medicis, the queen-mother, at the age of seventy-one years, who advised her son, in her last moments, to be reconciled to the King of Navarre.

In 1589, a decree of the Sorbonne was published releasing the subjects from their oath of allegiance to the king. The council of sixteen had declared the Duke of Aumale governor of Paris; and in concert with him, Bussile Clerc, a factious attorney, to whom the Duke of Guise had committed the charge of the Bastile, understanding that the parliament were assembled with an intent to send a solemn deputation to the king, went thither, attended by a guard, and carried fifty presidents and counsellors in their robes, publicly through the streets, exposed to all the insults of the populace, to the Bastile, where he confined them. The council then formed a new parliament, took an oath never to depart from the league, and to revenge the death of the Duke and Cardinal of Guise: they created the Duke of Mayenne lieutenant-general of the kingdom of France, an unknown and unintelligible title, but with which they gave him almost sovereign power, and indeed they would have compli-

mented him with the title of King, but that he prudently refused.

In the mean time, Henry the Third, being reconciled to the King of Navarre, had an interview with this prince near Tours, where great demonstrations of friendship passed between them. The King of Navarre, after accompanying Henry the Third to Tours, where he lay a night, retired to his quarter; but soon returned to the assistance of that monarch, whom the Duke of Mayenne had surprized at Tours, and was near taking prisoner. So important a service banished all diffidence between the two princes; so that they advanced with their army towards Paris, having under them the Marshal of Biron and the Duke of Epernon. After some advantages obtained by their detached parties, they took the town of Pontoise; and receiving a reinforcement of ten thousand Swiss, under the command of Colonel Sancy, the royal army, which consisted of more than thirty thousand men, laid siege to Paris, where the Duke of Mayenne commanded.

In the mean time, a Jacobine friar, whose name was James Clement, a half-witted creature, about twenty-five years of age, distracted by the enthusiastic sermons he heard every day thundered from the pulpits, and prompted by better heads, was fixed upon as a proper instrument for dissipating the royal army, by dispatch-
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ing the king. To facilitate this enterprize, a passport was obtained, under false pretences, from one of the king's generals then a prisoner, and a letter forged from one of the presidents of the parliament in the Bastile. With these implements, Clement set out from Paris the very day the king came to St. Cloud, where he was next day introduced to his majesty, to whom he spoke with great readiness, and presented his letters; and while his majesty was reading them, he drew a knife which he had concealed in his sleeve, and thrust it into the king's belly: Henry drew the knife out himself, and gave him one, or as some say, two wounds in the face; and the king's guards imprudently dispatched him. The King of Navarre repaired immediately to the King of France's quarters, when he was understood what had happened. The French King embraced him tenderly, declared him his successor, and exhorted the nobility present to acknowledge and support him. The king died next morning, being the 2d of August 1589, in the thirtieth year of his age, and the sixteenth of his reign. His body was deposited in the Abbey of Compiègne, till the year 1610, when it was removed to St. Denis. With this prince ended the line of Valois, which began to reign in 1328; and there remained no male issue, except Charles Duke of Angoulême, a natural son of Charles the Ninth.

Henry the Fourth, surnamed the Great,
King of Navarre, in the thirty-sixth year of
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his age succeeded to the crown of France, to which he was the right heir, being the descendant of Robert, Count of Clermont, son of St. Lewis, who married the heiress of Bourbon. Very few, however, except the Huguenots, professed a zeal for his service, and many of the principal catholics were, for a long time, unwilling to acknowledge him as their king; but after much deliberation, they came to him in a body, with the Sieur D'O at their head, who, in their names, declared that they did not dispute his title to the crown, but expected and desired that he should become a catholic. The king was greatly disconcerted at this abrupt request; but the Marshal Biron Sanci, with many of the young nobility, and all the colonels of the Swiss, interrupting the conference, by immediately taking the oath of fidelity, the catholic lords thought fit to retire and draw up propositions of a milder nature and more modestly expressed, which Henry signed, and then they also took the oath. The Duke of Mayenne, however, published a manifesto, declaring the King of Navarre a heretic, and acknowledging the cardinal of Bourbon as the true King of France. Henry, finding that his army began to diminish, thought it necessary to raise the siege of Paris, and to retire with the remainder of his forces to Normandy, where he would be near the succours which he daily expected from the Queen of England. In the mean time, the Duke of Mayenne got himself declared lieutenant-general of the kingdom, and caused

caused the cardinal of Bourbon to be proclaimed king, in Paris. He then marched towards Dieppe, which city had lately surrendered to the king, and, with thirty thousand men, attacked Henry, whose army did not amount to seven thousand. But the Duke's army, being composed of raw, undisciplined men, were entirely defeated. The king, soon after this victory, received a reinforcement of four thousand foot, from England, which enabled him again to attempt the siege of Paris: but Mayenne having entered the city with his whole army, obliged him to retire.

On the 14th of March 1589, the king gave battle with very unequal numbers, to the duke, near Dreux, and obtained a complete victory. His speech to his soldiers, before the engagement, was remarkably heroic — "Children," said he, if you should at any time lose "fight of your colours, look about for this," pointing to the white feather in his hat; "You'll find it in the way to victory and "honour."

About this time, died the cardinal of Bourbon, in his confinement at Fountenay, in Poitou, aged sixty-seven.

On the 4th of July, the king published an edict, establishing liberty of conscience throughout his dominions. In August, he took Nijon, in the fight of the Duke of Mayenne, and then, having assembled thirty-five thousand

forces, formed the siege of Rouen, but was obliged to raise it, on the arrival of the Prince of Parma with a Spanish army, who after relieving the town, marched back again into the low countries, without suffering Henry to force him to a battle. Soon after this, at Aumale, the king attacked the vanguard of the united armies of the Dukes of Parma and Mayenne, but was repulsed. It is allowed however, that he shewed great spirit in this attack, much intrepidity in the time of the greatest danger, and excellent conduct in retreating, wounded, as he was, in the reins.

The catholics began now to be very explicit, and gave the king to understand, that though they had hitherto, in complaisance, accepted his apologies on the point of religion, it became absolutely necessary that he should explain himself. The king did not think fit immediately to comply with their request, but amused them with specious and satisfactory reasons for his having acted in so indecisive a manner on so important a matter. Having received intelligence of the death of the Duke of Parma, who was marching again into France, he was the less solicitous about the catholics, and only wished to be able to temporize with them for the present.

In 1593, the Duke de Feria, a Spanish nobleman, made a proposal for abolishing the salique law, and for declaring the Infanta, Queen of France. The Duke of Mayenne
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was offered, in case he procured her election, the duchy of Burgundy in sovereignty, the government of Picardy for life, the title and authority of lieutenant-general of the kingdom under the new queen, the payment of all his debts, twenty-five thousand crowns in money, security for two hundred thousand more, and the absolute command of the Spanish troops. But these proposals were soon destroyed by a solemn arret of the parliament of Paris, declaring against any treaty for transferring the crown to strangers, as contrary to the salique law, and subversive of the fundamental principles of the government.

On Sunday the 25th of July, during these perplexities at Paris, the king made his abjuration at the church of St. Denis, and received absolution; in consequence of which, a truce was proclaimed for three months, to commence from the first of August. But several outrageous ecclesiastics made no scruple of declaring, that no credit ought to be given to the king's conversion, though published by an angel from heaven, and they devoted their oratory to enrage the people. The consequence was, that one Barriere, a man of low degree, formed a resolution to assassinate the king, in which he was encouraged by several of the clergy to whom he communicated his design. At last, he consulted a Dominican Friar at Lyons, on the occasion, who directed him to come again the next day at a certain hour, at which he took care also to ap-
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point Brancaleon, a gentleman belonging to the Queen Dowager, whom he directed to take particular notice of Barriere, and to make all possible haste to court, in order to apprize the king of his danger. This gentleman, not finding it safe to travel, sent the picture of the assassin to the king, who, by this means, knew him, as he met him by chance one day on the road. At length, however, Brancaleon arrived at Meulan, where the king then was, and seeing the fellow soon after in the street, caused him to be apprehended. He confessed his intention, named the persons who had exhorted and encouraged him, and then was executed as a traitor.

In 1594, Vitry, governor of Meaux, submitted to the royal Authority, and delivered the keys of the town to the principal inhabitants, who readily surrendered to the king. In the same year, d'Alincourt put his Majesty in possession of Pointoise; and the Sieur de la Chastre, entrusted with the government of the provinces of Orleans and Bruges, after making fruitless application to the Duke of Mayenne, thought it high time to secure peace for himself; and having obtained the concurrence of the magistrates, before the end of February, gave up those provinces to the king. He was therefore immediately confirmed in his government, and also in his dignity of marshal of France. The Duke of Mayenne finding his situation beginning to grow very hazardous; deserted by many of his own friends,
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abhorred by the king's party, and suspected by the Spaniards, retired with his family to Soissons, leaving the government of Paris, and the command of the garrison to Count Brissac, from whom he exacted the most solemn promises of using the utmost care and resolution to preserve the place. But as most of the principal inhabitants were now devoted to the king, the count foresaw the impossibility of stemming the torrent that was soon likely to come, and therefore consented to suffer the king to become master of Paris, which was accordingly in a few days effected, as it were, by stratagem, in the night. The Duke de Feria, however, with his Spanish troops, secured a retreat, and all those who refused to take the oath of allegiance were expelled; the city Rouen, and a multitude of other places, soon followed the example of Paris, and yielded obedience.

About this time, an attempt was made, by one Chattel, to assassinate the king, but the knife missed his throat, and only wounded him in the lip. Upon a thorough inquiry into this affair, it was discovered that the Jesuits were at the bottom of it; whereupon they were all banished the kingdom. In 1595, war was declared against Spain. The king, after ravaging Franche Comté, made his entry into Lyons, with great splendor, and was received by the archbishop with every mark of duty and submission. But in the mean time, the Spaniards were prosecuting the war in
Picardy

Picardy with great success. About the middle of the year, he finished a treaty with the Duke of Mayenne, promising to forget every thing that was past, discharging him from all accounts of public money, and restoring him and his adherents to their estates. In the following year, the Archduke Albert made a successful irruption into France, and made himself master of Calais and Ardres, which were not restored till the peace of Vervins. Public affairs began now to be in great perplexity; Henry, therefore, very prudently concluded a treaty of offensive and defensive alliance with England and Holland; and the Queen of England, as a mark of her sincere reconciliation, presented him with the order of the garter. At this very time, the Spaniards besieged and took Amiens, which affected him more than any misfortune that ever happened, as it not only proved the vigorous resolution of the Spaniards, but made him acquainted with the infidelity of the Huguenots. His old friends, however, comforted him, with offering every plan that could promise success in an expedition to retake Amiens, and the parliament likewise gave him their assistance: the Queen of England succoured him with four thousand men, and the Duke of Mayenne exerted his abilities and courage to the utmost. By these means the place was retaken on the 25th of September.

In 1598, the Duke de Mercœur, upon the reduction of Bretagne, submitted; and married
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his daughter to Caesar Monsieur, the king's natural son.

By this time, the Huguenots began to alter their manner of thinking, and were very solicitous to have their affairs settled. They therefore followed the king to Nantes, where they at last obtained that famous edict, bearing the name of that place, which ought to have secured to the protestants a perpetual and solid establishment in France. The treaty of Ver-
vins was concluded between France and Spain on the 21 of May following, by which the king obtained that tranquility for himself and subjects, which was necessary for regulating the public affairs, and repairing the losses sustained by the war.

In 1600, he married Mary of Medicis, at Lyons, and appointed Madame de Guercheville, whom he had made love to without success, to be one of her ladies of honour, saying, 'that since he had put her virtue to the proof, she should be in that post with the queen his wife.'

In the month of August, in the same year, the Archduke Albert laid siege to Ostend, and the king, that he might appear ready to defend his frontiers, in case of any new attempt, made a tour to Calais. Queen Elizabeth happened at that time to be at Dover, from whence she sent Sir Thomas Edmonds to compliment him, and accompanied her message
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with a letter, which gave him great satisfaction. The king, soon after, sent over Marshal Biron, with a train of one hundred and fifty noblemen and gentlemen, to express the sense he had of the queen's attention and respect. The marshal met with a very gracious reception, and had a long and remarkable conference with her majesty. She spoke at large to him of the insolence and ambition of her late favourite the Earl of Essex, who had been executed the February preceding; adding, at the same time, with a sagacity and penetration peculiar to herself, that the King of France would do well, on a like occasion, to imitate her firmness, and not risque his safety or his crown on an ill-timed clemency. It is reasonably imagined that she entered upon such particulars concerning the Earl of Essex, with an intention to divert the marshal from persevering in those dangerous schemes of politics, which, in a few months, proved fatal to him; for he had entered into a conspiracy against his master, and was by the parliament adjudged to death. He suffered in the bastile, on the last day of July, without shewing any thing of that intrepidity, for which he had been so highly and so justly famous.

In the beginning of the year 1603, the king took the first steps for settling the silk trade in his dominions, and this was entirely due to his own judgment, for it was strongly opposed by his great minister Rhosny. He had the satisfaction of living to see his intentions

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crowned with' success; and that manufacture, in a few years, brought more money into his kingdom than almost all the other staple commodities together.

In the spring he made a tour to Mentz, and upon the journey received the jesuits again into his favour and protection. He granted letters patent for the establishment of a colony in Canada.

This year the parliament registered the edict for establishing the Capuchins in France, who had been invited into that kingdom by Charles the Ninth, in 1573.

Two years afterwards, another conspiracy was discovered, in which the king's mistress and all her family were engaged; the criminals were convicted and condemned by the parliament, but a pardon was granted them by his majesty. At this time happened the gunpowder-plot in England.

In 1610, he formed a plan for reducing the power of Austria, which he imagined was aiming at universal monarchy. But this, as well as many other noble plans for the security and improvement of his kingdom, was interrupted by his sudden and untimely death. He was barbarously assassinated in his coach by Ravilliac, notwithstanding the presence of six noblemen. He died in the 58th year of his age, and the twenty-first of his reign, a

king justly revered by his subjects, for his great capacity and knowledge.

The first step taken by the parliament, after the death of Henry the Fourth, was to publish an arret, entrusting Queen Mary of Medicis, with the tutelage of the young King, Lewis the Thirteenth, together with the regency of the kingdom. On the 22d of May, in the year 1610, the edict of Nants was confirmed, and a proclamation issued to quiet the protestants. On the 27th of the same month, Ravilliac the assassin, was put to death in as severe a manner as could be invented. He denied, to the last, having had any accomplices. declared that nobody had ever persuaded him to kill the king, nor had he acquainted any one with his intention. These assertions however, from a variety of circumstances, were much doubted, though the truth of that execrable murder was never discovered. The Prince of Condé, on the first news of the king's death, set out for Paris, and had a long conference with the Duke of Sully, before he went to court. He was rather displeased at the measures of the regency, but, being in narrow circumstances, he was readily induced to accept of some lucrative offers that were made to him. On the 17th of October, the young king was solemnly crowned at Rheims.

Amongst the many embassies sent to condole with the queen, and to congratulate Lewis the Thirteenth, the kingdom was, in general,
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best pleased with the arrival of Lord Wotton, from England, as they wished for nothing so earnestly as to preserve an alliance and good harmony with that nation. But they now began to find themselves involved in domestic feuds: the princes and great lords of the court perplexed both the queen and the state with disagreement amongst themselves, though they readily united when any evil measure was to be taken, which concerned the public. The Duke of Sully, on the contrary, tried every method that reason and good policy could suggest, to give the queen a just idea of the state of her affairs, and to prevail upon her to govern with firmness and moderation. But his zeal in opposing the councils of some of her favourites, raised a strong party against himself, which he had either not foreseen, or despised. At last, he was obliged to surrender his important employment of superintendant of the finances, and, in February, retired from court, to his own house at Sully.

The great change that had happened in the councils of France began now to be made public, by declaring the double marriage with the court of Spain, which had been chiefly negotiated by the Pope and the Duke of Florence. In order to give this measure the best sanction, the Duke of Mayenne was sent ambassador extraordinary to Madrid, where he signed the contract of Marriage with the Infanta: and on the other hand, the Duke of Pastrana came to Paris, to sign the contract between Philip,

Prince of Austrias, and the Princess Elizabeth. In order to pacify King James of England, the Duke of Bouillon was sent over, to propose a marriage for the Princess Christina, with the Prince of Wales. At home, as well as abroad, the double match was much disliked; inso-much that the Prince of Condé and the Count of Soissons, left the court, and published very strong reasons for their disapprobation. The feuds among the protestants were likewise productive of farther disturbances; for their political interest took place of their religion, and they were headed by some of the greatest men in France; particularly the Duke of Bouillon and the Duke of Sully. The state of the common people, was at this time extremely wretched; for though several heavy taxes had been taken off, yet the example of luxury in the court was so generally diffused, that idleness and poverty universally ensued; which produced a very extraordinary edict, forbidding all persons, on pain of the severest penalties, to give alms in the street, or to relieve the distress of common beggars. On the 3d of October 1611, died the famous Duke of Mayenne.

The Prince of Condé was now endeavouring to seize Poitiers, which, for the first time, alarmed the queen into wise counsels. She immediately assembled a small army of choice troops, and conducted her son to Poitiers, where his presence at the head of the forces proved the shortest and safest way to appease the
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the commotions. About the middle of September, the queen returned to Paris, and the king, being entered into his fourteenth year, went to parliament, and expedited a declaration, confirming the edict of Nantz, and the laws against blasphemy and duels. The next day he went to the parliament, in state, and told them, that he, from that time, took upon himself the government of his dominions. The queen was now at ease, for though every thing passed in the name of the king, and by his authority, yet nothing of consequence was done without her advice or approbation.

On the 25th day of May, in the following year, the treaty of S. Menchoud was signed, by which every thing reasonable was granted to the malecontents. The Duke of Vendosme indeed refused to sign, though he was restored to his government of Britany; but, upon the king's approach with an army, he was obliged to submit.

On the 2d of October, the king was declared of age, by the throne of justice, held in the parliament of Paris, when it was decided that the cardinals should take place of the ecclesiastical peers; which occasioned the latter to retire.

The Marshal d'Ancre was, by this time, one of the greatest favourites at court, and imagining himself secure, he gave a loose to his temper, and became guilty of the most

enormous acts of cruelty and oppression; but his destruction was soon contrived by the Sieur Luyens. He was arrested by order of the King, upon the bridge of the Louvre, and put to death upon the spot.

In 1621, happened the first war with the Huguenots, whose leaders were Rohan and Soubise; nor was it ended till after the siege of Rochelle in 1629. The design of the Huguenots, was to model France into a republic; but the king, with distinguished conduct and courage, defeated Soubise, and soon after consented to a general pacification.

In 1622, the king made a public entry into Montpellier, Arles, Lyons, and Avignon, and after passing part of the winter in the provinces, returned to Paris, where he was welcomed as a conqueror, though he came from the slaughter and destruction of his own subjects.

On the 11th of May, in 1624, the marriage between the Prince of Wales and the Princess Henrietta Maria, was celebrated with great pomp and magnificence, the nuptial benediction being given by Cardinal de Rochefoucault.

In 1625, the Huguenots, renewed the war under pretence of the non-execution of some promises: but the contest again subsided, by means of the treaty of Monçon in Arragon, in
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the following year. About this time was published an arret of parliament, condemning a treatise written by Santarel, wherein the authority of the Pope was extended beyond all constitutional bounds. A proclamation also was issued, forbidding the impression of all sorts of books without the name of the author. In 1555, Henry the Second made an order of the same nature.

In less than two years after, a war broke out between France and England, which was promoted in a great measure, by the Duke of Buckingham. On the 20th of July 1627, the duke appeared before Rochelle, with a fleet of upwards of an hundred men of war and transports, and seven or eight hundred of land forces on board; but he found the gates were shut against him, and all possible precautions taken, that he might not even be able to send a messenger into the town. On the 6th of November, the duke having received a considerable reinforcement from England, caused a general assault to be made against fort St. Martin, in which he was however repulsed with great loss: and the Marshal Schomberg, landing two days after with a superior army, obliged him to secure his retreat. At length, he re-imbarked, and sailed for England on the 17th of the same month, without having gained any memorable advantages by the expedition. On the 2d of September following, he was assassinated at Portsmouth.

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The fleet which had been fitted out by the Duke of Buckingham, sailed again, early in the ensuing year, in favour of Rochelle. The king returned to the siege on the 29th of March, and posted himself at the battery of chef de baye. The English in vain attempted to force the dyke, which had been finished by Pompey Targon; in October they returned to England, and on the 28th of that month, Rochelle submitted to the king. The fortifications were immediately demolished, the ditches filled up, the inhabitants disarmed, the privileges of the city abolished, and the catholic religion restored. This was a mortal blow to Calvinism, and may be reckoned the most considerable event during the administration of Cardinal Richelieu.

In 1629, the famous Code Marillac, commonly called Code Michaut, was published in the form of an edict, containing a collection of the most important ordinances. The king, notwithstanding the opposition of the parliament, ordered it to be published from the throne of justice. It consists of four hundred and sixty-one articles, of which one hundred and thirty-two relate to war, and thirty-one to the marine.

At the opening of the next year, a new parliament was called at Mentz; and a war commenced against Lorrain, in which that duke was obliged to surrender his capital before any terms of accommodation were complied with.

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The town of Richelieu, was at this time erected into a dutchy and peerage, in favour of the cardinal, his heirs, successors, and assigns, male and female. Before the end of the year, war was declared against Spain, which at first occasioned great discontent in France; but the Spaniards were attacked with such intrepidity and valour, that their army of seventeen thousand men was presently defeated by half their number; four thousand of them were killed, nine hundred taken prisoners, together with all their baggage and artillery. This was called the battle of Avein, and was fought on the 20th of May. The victorious army marched without interruption to Maestricht, where they joined the Prince of Orange, besieged Tirlémont, a place of considerable strength, and took it by a coup-de-main. In this year, was created the title of lieutenant-general in France. The principal officers, before this time, were the marshals de camp, of whom there was but a very small number, under the Marshals. This institution was deemed of singular utility. First, It made a degree of distinction and rank between the marshals de camp and the marshals of France: another rank was also created, viz. that of brigadier, which was a degree between a colonel and marshal de camp, in order to excite and maintain an emulation among the officers, by establishing a greater proximity between the different steps of military preferment. Secondly, Each of these ranks encreased the duty of the officer, and of course qualified him by degrees

grees for the highest command ; and thirdly, their armies becoming more numerous, required a greater number of general officers, to preserve discipline among the several subdivisions. The English, in a few years, thought proper to adopt the above regulation in their forces.

On the 8th of February 1635, a treaty was concluded at Paris, between Lewis the thirteenth and the States General, whereby the king engaged to declare war, against Philip the Fourth of Spain, if that Prince did not make ample recompence for several grievances. The Spaniards being informed of this treaty, surprized the city of Treves on the 26th of March, and took the elector prisoner. War was hereupon instantly declared, which lasted thirteen years, against the Emperor, and twenty-five against Spain, during which time it was carried on with great vigour and various success, in Germany, Italy, and France. The Duke de Valette, entered Navarre in July 1637, took Figuerro, Irone, and Port-Passage, in which he found twelve ships and above an hundred pieces of cannon. The Archbishop of Bourdeaux, who had orders to second him with a fleet, defeated that of Spain, which was composed of fourteen galleons, and four frigates ; one only, of the latter, escaped ; the rest were either taken or sunk, and on board them, five thousand veteran troops were all burnt, or drowned.



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The Marshals de Chatillon and Melleray, had formed a project for the attack of Clermont on the Meuse ; but the heavy rains rendering it impracticable, they resolved on the siege of Arras. The governor was absent when the place was invested, so that the defence was made by Colonel Boyle, a Scotch officer in the Spanish service, who did all that could be expected from a gallant man, but was at last obliged to capitulate. During this siege, the king remained at Amiens, where he had a dangerous fit of sickness.

On the 21st of September 1649, the queen was delivered of a son, who had, for the present, the title of Duke of Anjou. Cardinal Richelieu, apprehensive that his power would now encrease, took every precaution to be in a condition to secure himself, in case of the king's death. Mademoiselle de la Fayette, a favourite of the king, was obliged to retire from the court, by a contrivance of the cardinal, who was also jealous of her influence. Father Caussin, the king's confessor, as well as that lady's, encouraged her to intrigue against this minister, even after she had taken the veil among the nuns of the order of the Visitation ; but the cardinal discovered their intentions, and got Caussin banished.

The pope, having disoblged the king, not only by ill-treatment of Marshal d'Etrees, ambassador at Rome, but by violating several privileges of the French nation, began to lose
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much of his authority ; for the king sent a letter of cachet to the parliament, directing them to signify, in his name, to the bishops and other prelates in Paris, that his Majesty forbade them to have any communication with M. Scoti, nuncio-extraordinary from his Holiness.

On the 1st of June following, Lewis concluded an alliance offensive and defensive with John the Fourth, King of Portugal, and by the interposition of the court, the States General, who were invited to become contracting parties in the treaty, concluded in the mean time a truce for ten years with that prince, by which they engaged to act jointly against the Spaniards in the Mediterranean.

On the 3d of July 1642, Mary of Medicis died at Cologne, aged sixty-eight.—In October of the same year, Cardinal Richelieu made a kind of triumphal entry into Paris, and in November was hurried out of life by an abscess in his lungs.

The king, being now deprived of his governor, as Richelieu may be justly styled, resolved to act from himself. He recalled several persons from exile, and discharged all the state-prisoners from the Bastile. But disease and infirmities began now to make him sensible that his own death was at hand, and the expectation of a regency taking place, occasioned two factions at court, one for the Queen, the other

other for the Duke of Orleans, the king's brother. Lewis liked neither of them ; but as he had reason to think, that the government could not be in worse hands than his brother's, he dismissed his confessor, the learned Father Sirmond, for soliciting him to associate the Duke of Orleans in the regency. At length, after mature deliberation, the king, on the 19th of April 1643, published the form of the regency that should take place after his decease. According to this declaration, the queen was sole regent, and had the custody of the children. After it was read, and observance sworn, it was registered in parliament. He died on the 14th of May following, the day of his accession, in the forty-second year of his age, and the thirty-third of his reign.

Lewis the Fourteenth was not quite five years old when his father died. The parliament, notwithstanding the declaration of the late king, concerning the regency, soon permitted many material alterations, insomuch that, without formally repealing, they entirely cancelled his will in that particular. The care of the young king's education was entrusted to Cardinal Mazarin, which was the ground whereon the cardinal rose to such great reputation and authority. He was immediately put at the head of the queen's councils, and shared her confidence with the Duke of Vendosme and a very few others. The Duke of Anguien having, at this time, gained a compleat victory over the Spaniards at Rocroi,

was a means of fixing the reputation of the regency, both in the eyes of the court and of the people. But jealousies among the queen's favourites soon interrupted the harmony of the state. The Duke of Beaufort was so much incensed at the preference which the queen shewed to Mazarin, that there was little doubt of his meditating the cardinal's destruction; but his intentions were suspected and frustrated, his person arrested, and, with several noblemen who had sided with him, sent to the castle of Vincennes. The domestic affairs of France began now to be disturbed. The council of state had imposed a tax upon the new houses, built contrary to the edict for setting bounds to the city of Paris; upon which followed an insurrection of the people, whose cause was supported by parliament. At first, vigorous measures were proposed, but the natural moderation of Mazarin prevailed, and the queen consented to pardon the offenders. It was at this time, that the Queen of England, whom the civil war in her own dominions had driven abroad, after passing a few months in drinking the waters of Bourbon, came to spend the winter at Paris, where she was treated with the greatest respect. Apartments were assigned for her in the Louvre, and compliments were paid her by the supreme courts of judicature.

The French armies were, this year, very victorious. The Duke of Anguien attacked General Merci, who commanded a large body

body of troops, and gained a compleat victory over him; and Merci, in retreating, fell into the hands of a scouting party and was killed. Marshal Turenne finished the glory of the campaign by taking Treves on the 16th of November, and restoring the Elector.

In the ensuing campaign, Cardinal Mazarine was determined to exert the whole power of France, to humble the pope, who not only prosecuted the Barbarins with unrelenting severity, but had refused a hat to the bishop of Aix, the cardinal's brother, and had even gone so far as to publish a bull, insisting on the attendance of the whole sacred college at Rome, unless exempted by his Holiness's permission. But the terror of an armament soon forced Pope Innocent to comply with the cardinal's terms, by which the Barbarins were restored to all they had lost, and Mazarine became the very idol of the people.

The year 1647 was not very fortunate to France, the plenipotentiaries for concluding a peace had met, and continued their conferences at Munster and Osnaburg; the catholics at the former, and the protestants at the latter.

On the 2d of October, France lost Marshal de Gassion, one of her ablest officers, at the siege of Lens. He was, at that time, in disgrace at court, for having thrown an impertinent letter of Mazarine on the ground,

and for having justly exclaimed against the idle expences of the opera, whilst several places on the frontiers of the kingdom wanted repairs.

In 1648, the admirable conduct of Marshal Turenne obliged the Imperialists to sign the treaty of Munster. On the 30th of January, that treaty was also concluded between Spain and Holland; in consequence of which, the King of Spain renounced for himself, and for his successors, all right whatever, to the united provinces, and acknowledged them to be a free and independent state. By this peace, France was deprived of the alliance of Holland, notwithstanding the assurance this republic had given of never entering into a separate treaty, and Spain was encouraged to make new efforts against France, whose power had been considerably weakened by the civil wars: but, on the whole, it was very honourable and favourable to the French crown. The liberty of the empire seemed to be secure, the balance between the two religions, perfectly settled, and all this depended upon France for support. The great project of Richelieu, with respect to restraining the power of the House of Austria in Germany, was here most effectually executed. In our own times, we have seen the spirit of this treaty revive, and French armies in the heart of the empire, invited thither by German princes.

In 1648, another civil war broke out, which was greatly promoted by the famous Cardinal de Retz, a man of extraordinary abilities and prodigious vices. But as the whole conduct of the malecontents was wild and ridiculous, and their troops defeated as often as they engaged. They therefore found themselves under a necessity of making peace, to which the court was pretty equally inclined. On the 11th of March the treaty was concluded at Rouel, and by the end of the month, it was confirmed and agreed to by the parliament and people. It seemed as if the spirit of rebellion had spread itself all over Europe: the * English were now trying their King as a criminal, and the Sultan Ibrahim was at the same time strangled by the Janissaries.

The treaty was however only productive of an apparent calm in France: the parliament assembled again, under pretence that the declaration had been violated. The cardinal was forced to withdraw from court, leaving the queen in great distress. The Frondæurs had gained the Duke of Orleans over to their party, and began to grow so formidable that the king thought proper to quit his capital, and retire to St. Germain by night, on the 6th of January 1649. On the day after, the Prince of Condé, accompanied by the Duke of Orleans, formed the blockade of Paris. The court had retreated to a little town named

* See Vol. III. p. 193, & seq.

Gergaut, with a very small number of troops about the king's person. They were scarce arrived there, when the Duke of Beaufort, who had taken the opportunity offered him by these disturbances, to escape out of prison and join the malecontents, took post on the opposite side of the river Loire, and began to attack the Bridge. Marshal Turenne happened to be there, and the court was saved by his conduct and resolution. He took only two hundred men with him, unprovided with ball or with powder, posted them at the houses adjoining to the bridge, ordered the barrier to be thrown open, and advancing with his sword drawn, called to his troops with a loud voice, not to fire 'till they came close to the enemy. The rebels were so much alarmed at the nature of this attack, that instead of giving battle, they chose rather to barricade. But Marshal Hocquincourt, coming up with the guards, attacked the barricade, killed their commander Sirot, and dispersed the troops. In August however, a general act of indemnity was passed, in which all the chiefs of the rebel party were included; and on the 18th of that month, their majesties returned to their capital in triumph. Cardinal Mazarine was still absent, and the queen could not imagine the royal authority thoroughly established without him; she therefore sent a strong escort to bring him from Sedan to Paris, where he was cordially received by the king. This great minister immediately applied himself to the restoring regularity in the government; and the remains
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of the rebellion were gradually extinguished throughout the kingdom, partly by treaty and partly by force.

In the year 1653, the intendants of the provinces began to exercise their authority. They were now commissioned, with the title of intendants for the administration of justice, for the police, and the revenue; which is the state of those officers to this day. On the 7th of June 1654, the king was crowned at Rheims.

In 1655, Oliver Cromwel embraced proposals from Mazarine, and concluded a treaty with the king of France. He treated his most Christian majesty upon a footing of equality, obliged him to acknowledge his title of Protector, and give notice to the fugitive King of England to quit the French territories. In the mean time Marshal Turenne pursued his conquests, and opened a way to the Spanish Netherlands, by taking Landrecy and Quesnoy. The King remained with the army, during the whole campaign, and assisted at the siege of St. Guillan, which surrendered on the 15th of August.

No sooner did the following season admit of taking the field, than the cardinal, in compliance with Cromwell's pressing remonstrances, ordered Turenne to make the necessary preparations for immediately laying siege to Dunkirk. The marshal saw the difficulties that would attend such an expedition, while Furnes, Bergue,

Bergue, and Graveline, were in the possession of the enemy. But his orders were peremptory, and he resolved to comply, relying upon his own genius to surmount every difficulty. The inhabitants of Dunkirk were soon apprised of his intentions. They therefore opened the sluices, and laid the whole country under water, as far as the lake of Bergue. On the dyke leading from thence to Dunkirk, were raised two strong forts, each garrisoned with a thousand men. The marshal, however, was not discouraged; he persisted in the enterprise, contrary to the remonstrances of his officers and friends, who dreaded the ruin of the army and the reputation of their general. With eight thousand men he marched into Artois, passed the Lys, and advanced towards the Colme; and when he arrived before Dunkirk, -he saw the town floating, as it were, in the sea. The men were immediately set to work on the lines, forming a curve, like a crescent, round the town. At the same time, the port was blocked up by twenty English men of war. The Spaniards, observing the marshal's resolution to invest the place, thought of putting themselves in motion, in order to stop his progress. But he was determined to go out of his lines, and give them battle at all events. The English part of the army led the attack, and behaved with great intrepidity. The French battalions advanced with no less valour, and the enemy were soon thrown into confusion; while the Marquis de Castlemere

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attacked the flank with his cavalry, by which the Spaniards were entirely broke and dispersed. About nine thousand were killed, a more considerable number were taken prisoners, and the remainder were obliged to fly for security under the cannon of Dunkirk. The day after this battle, Turenne renewed the siege with redoubled fury; the garrison, though without hope of succour, made a very gallant defence for ten days longer, but at last, on the 24th of June, surrendered upon honourable terms, and Dunkirk was, according to a * compact with Cromwel, put into the hands of the English.

In 1659, a treaty of peace was concluded between France and Spain, after four and twenty conferences. This was the last material transaction in Cardinal Mazarine's administration. He died in the following year, leaving behind him the character not only of the most subtle, enterprising and indefatigable, but also of the most vain, haughty and avaricious minister ever known in that or any other country. Lewis began now to pay very close attention to the affairs of government, which he had hitherto submitted to the cardinal, without controul. On the 9th of June 1660, the king's marriage was solemnized, and on the 26th of August their majesties made their public entry into Paris.

* See Vol. III. p. 200.

In 1662, the Count d'Estrades negotiated the restitution of Dunkirk, with the court of London, and * Charles the Second agreed to restore it for five millions of livres. By the same treaty, all the posts which the English possessed on the coast of Flanders, were delivered up to the French, at which the parliament of England was highly incensed, and would have sacrificed Lord Clarendon to their resentment, if he had not made a timely escape. In 1663, the academy of inscriptions and belles lettres was founded in France, as also that of painting and sculpture. The same year Lewis marched to invade Flanders, with an army of thirty-five thousand men. Turenne was the second in command upon this expedition, from whom his Majesty condescended to declare his intention of learning the art of war. Furnes, Armentieres, and Courtrai were taken in two days, and the campaign concluded with the reduction of Lisle. In 1668, the plan was proposed for fortifying the towns he had taken; and the direction of the works committed to Vauban, the greatest engineer ever known. Every body was surprised to see places made strong in proportion as they appeared more naked and defenceless: the citadel of Lisle was constructed upon this principle, and is reputed a masterpiece of fortification.

On the 7th of April 1672, war was declared against the Dutch, both by England and France;

* See Vol. III. p. 209.

France; the consequence of which was, almost the immediate conquest of Holland. In October following, France and Spain came to a rupture, and Lewis was obliged to evacuate several of the vanquished towns. In 1675, Marshal Turenne opposed Montecuculli in his design in passing over the Rhine at Strasburgh; near three months were spent in marches, counter-marches, and stratagems: at length the marshal was killed by a random shot, on the 27th of July, and in him died the greatest military support of France. On the 5th of April 1677, Cambray surrendered to the king, after a siege of nine days only. The Prince of Orange marched to the relief of St. Omer, and on the 11th was fought the battle of Mount Cassel, where the Duke of Orleans gained a complete victory over the Prince of Orange, and gave signal proofs of his valour. At this æra, lived Racine and Despereaux, to whom the king granted a pension of a thousand crowns to encourage them to write the history of his reign.

In February 1678, the king besieged and took Ghent, after a four days siege. This place was of great importance, as it was intended for the general magazine of the allied army, till they should be in a condition to take the field. The year following, died Cardinal de Retz. In 1680, the first settlement of the French in the East Indies was secured, by confirming the acquisition of Pondicherry in 1674.

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In the beginning of the next year, the king caused the harbours of Brest and Toulon to be completed, and encreased his marine with upwards of sixty thousand sailors.

In 1690, died Pope Innocent the Eleventh, an avowed enemy to France ; by whose death an end was put to the disputes between that kingdom and Rome. In 1695, happened the first imposition of a poll tax, which was however ordained to terminate at the next peace, and the ordination was strictly adhered to.

In April 1696, the allies bombarded Calais by sea, but to no purpose. In July, M. de Frontenac, governor of New France, undertook an expedition against the Iroquois, by means of which he secured Quebec and all Canada, against the incursions of those barbarians. The only transaction that passed, worthy notice at this time, in the Netherlands, was the siege of Namur. King William ventured to invest that place, though, by some late additional works, it was deemed almost impregnable, and was defended by count Guiscard, with a garrison of fifteen thousand men. However, on the 4th of September, after a very gallant defence, it was forced to capitulate. The coast of France was this year, frequently insulted by Berkely the English admiral ; several places were bombarded, but as no extraordinary damage was sustained, these exploits only shewed that England had again resumed her naval superiority.

In 1697, a peace was established over all Europe, by the treaty of Ryswick; but it was not signed till the 20th of September. With England, this treaty stipulated, that Lewis should neither dispute William's pretensions to the crown of Great Britain, nor in any shape assist the claim of James the Second his competitor. In the following year, mutual embassies were sent from all the princes of Europe. But in 1701, Lewis found himself at the eve of the most important war in his whole reign. A grand alliance was formed against him. England and Holland united, and exerted their vigour; and in the month of July, the great Duke of Marlborough, took the command of the confederate army in Flanders. Lewis sent the Duke of Burgundy and Marshal Boufflers to oppose him, but his judicious marches and encampments obliged the French every where to retire. In the space of a month all Spanish Guelderland was evacuated, many towns taken, and the two French commanders, to save their reputation, returned to Versailles. The engagements at sea were no less favourable to the English*.

In 1704, the emperor's affairs were on the brink of destruction, when the Duke of Marlborough formed that bold military resolution, which will be the admiration of all ages, of marching to the relief of the empire with only ten thousand British infantry, and twenty-three

* See Vol. IV. p. 31.

squadrons of horse. In July, was fought that ever memorable battle of Blenheim*, where the French army was so severely defeated: officers and soldiers threw themselves into the Danube, and lost their lives in endeavouring to escape captivity. Ten thousand men were left dead on the field, and thirteen thousand were made prisoners. One hundred pieces of cannon, two hundred standards, all the French baggage, and the military chest, fell into the hands of the enemy. This was the most disgraceful and decisive loss that Lewis ever sustained. The empire of Germany was relieved, and all France thrown into the utmost consternation. These misfortunes in Germany, were however, in some measure, alleviated by the active and prudent conduct of Vendosme, who reduced the Duke of Savoy to extreme difficulties, and almost ruined his whole territories before the end of the campaign. But on the opening of the next campaign, the French were again defeated by the English general, at the battle of Ramillies, and also by Prince Eugene before Turin. Upon these repeated losses, the king thought proper to recall Vendosme from Italy, and place him at the head of the army in the Netherlands, in conjunction with the Duke of Burgundy. The battle of Oudenarde, was here the next event of importance, wherein the Duke of Vendosme's military talents appeared to the greatest advantage, but proved useless, in opposition to Marlborough. When the French army began

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* See Vol. IV. p. 34.

to break, Vendosme alighting from his horse, flew among the ranks, called the officers by name, conjured them to maintain the honor of their country, and animated the men with his voice and example. But the whole army was soon put into confusion, and night coming on, Vendosme drew off his broken forces towards Ghent. Having seen the army give way, he had prognosticated their defeat, and had provided a rear guard of twenty battalions to secure the retreat. In this action they lost three thousand men, had seven thousand taken prisoners, and owed the safety of the rest to the good conduct and precaution of the Duke of Vendosme. The allies, pursuing their advantages, immediately invested Lisle, and the reduction of that well fortified citadel astonished all Europe. In the mean time, the English fleet in the Mediterranean, commanded by Sir John Leake, seized upon the islands of Sardinia and Minorca.

On the 11th of September, 1709, was fought the battle of Malplacquet, where twenty thousand of the confederates fell, whereas the loss of the French scarce amounted to eight thousand. At length, the war began to be very burthensome to the English, and made them turn their eyes upon their own situation, in the midst of Marlborough's victories. A change in the ministry, and a quarrel between Queen Anne and the Duchess of Marlborough, soon paved the way to a general peace. On the 29th of January, 1712. the congress was
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opened at Utrecht. The Dutch plenipotentiaries behaved as a people forced to consent to a conference against their inclination. A spirit of war still prevailed in the United Provinces, nor was there any hopes that the deputies would change their behaviour, till Britain's expressions became resolute and peremptory. Mr. Prior was impatiently expected by the French ministers, as the angel of peace, entrusted with the queen of England's secret sentiments. But in his room, came Mr. Harley, with instructions of the greatest moment to all the powers of Europe. England, it seems, demanded security from the courts of France and Spain, that the crowns of those two kingdoms should never be united in the same person. In expectation of Philip's answer, the negotiation was suspended, this being a fundamental article, to prevent the exorbitant growth of the house of Bourbon. Lewis, in the mean time, was so desirous of a peace, that he wrote to the English ministry, with a proposal, in case of Philip's refusing to renounce his pretensions to the crown of France, to enter into such measures with the Queen of England, as should be necessary to determine him, and bring on the conclusion of the treaty.

On the 12th of February, died at Versailles, Mary Adelaide of Savoy, Dauphiness, and formerly Duchess of Burgundy, at the age of six and twenty years, and the dauphin survived her but six days, for he died at Marli, on
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the 18th of the same month, at the age of thirty. The Duke of Burgundy, the eldest of the two princes whom he left behind, followed soon after, and died at Versailles upon the 8th of March, at the age of eight years; the Duke of Anjou, the present king, was at the same time in great danger.

The war in Spain afforded nothing remarkable; the campaign in Flanders was the only object worthy of attention; and indeed the operations on that side contributed to forward the peace. On the 17th of July. the Duke of Ormond withdrew his troops from the allied army; a suspension of arms was proclaimed in the French and English camps; and on the 19th of the same month, Dunkirk was put into the hands of the English, till the conclusion of a peace. The suspension of arms which had been agreed on between France, Spain, and England, was prolonged, and a like suspension was declared with regard to Portugal. Upon the 5th of November, the King of Spain renounced the crown of France for himself and his descendants; and on the other hand, the Dukes of Berry and Orleans relinquished their pretensions to Spain.

On the 11th of April 1713, the treaties between the plenipotentiaries of France, Great Britain, Savoy, Portugal, and the States General, were signed at Utrecht, while the Emperor refused the terms of accommodation and continued the war. On the 13th of July, a

treaty of peace was signed between Spain, on the one hand, and Great Britain and Savoy, on the other, by which Gibraltar and Port Mahon, with the island of Minorca, were ceded to the British nation, who likewise received considerable advantages with regard to their West India trade ; and on the 6th of March 1714, a treaty of peace was signed at Rastadt, by Prince Eugene, in the name of the emperor and the empire, and Marshal Villars, in behalf of the king, who did not long survive these treaties, but died at Versailles, the 1st of September, 1715, in the seventy-seventh year of his age, and the seventy-second year of his reign, and was buried at St. Denis. He was succeeded by his grandson, Lewis the Fifteenth, the present King of France, who was born the 15th of February, 1710.

E N D o f V O L. V.



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